SCS

PRESENTS

NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

CREDITS

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Hohoemi Comics

信長のシェフ

7

A CHEF OF NOBUNAGA
STORY BY MITSURU NISHIMURA
COMIC BY TAKURO KAJIKAWA

原作 西村ミツル
漫画 梶川卓郎

信長のシェフ 7

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Nobunaga, who lost one of his brave generals, Mori Yoshinari, in the midst of a Ishiyama Hongan-ji, Azai, and Asakura encirclement, managed to break through his crisis with a cooking duel at the Imperial Palace. However, before peace even settles, a new encirclement commences. The one who holds the key to solving this crisis is Takeda Shingen.

美味しいコミック、召し上がれ！
HOUBUNSHA COMICS

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〈信長のシェフ〉連載は月刊『まんがタイムきらら』にて掲載されました。

カバーイラスト・扉石卓郎
カバーデザイン・本島真樹子＋デザイン事務所

信長のシェフ

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7

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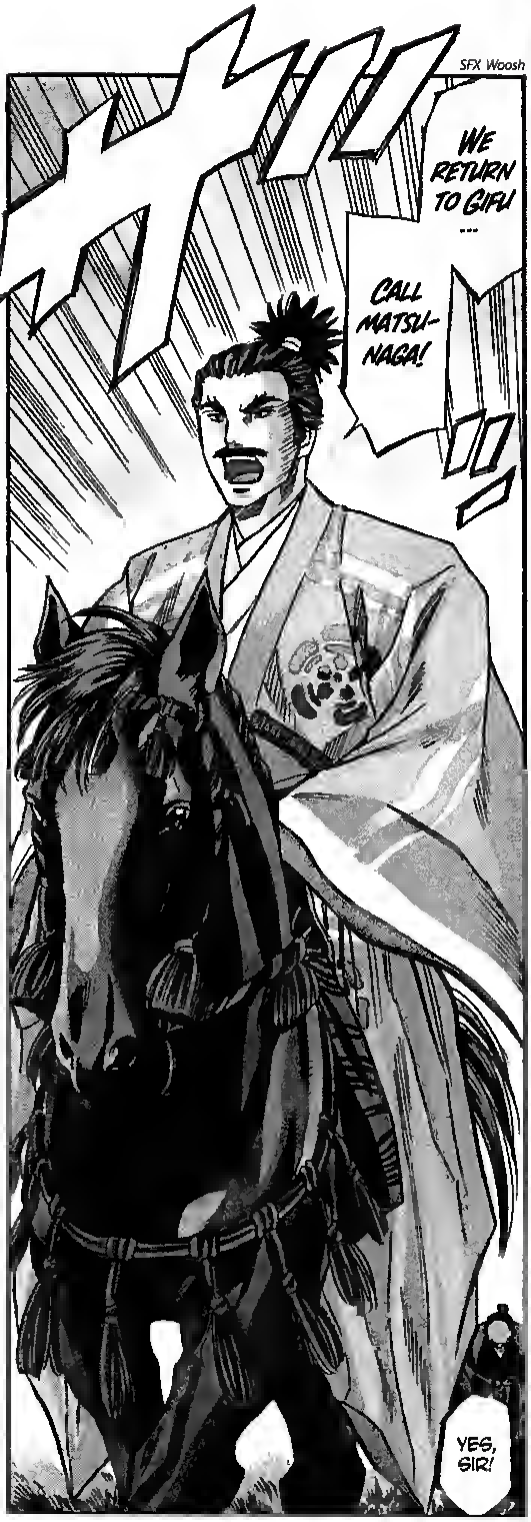
*This story is a work of fiction and does not always accurately reflect history

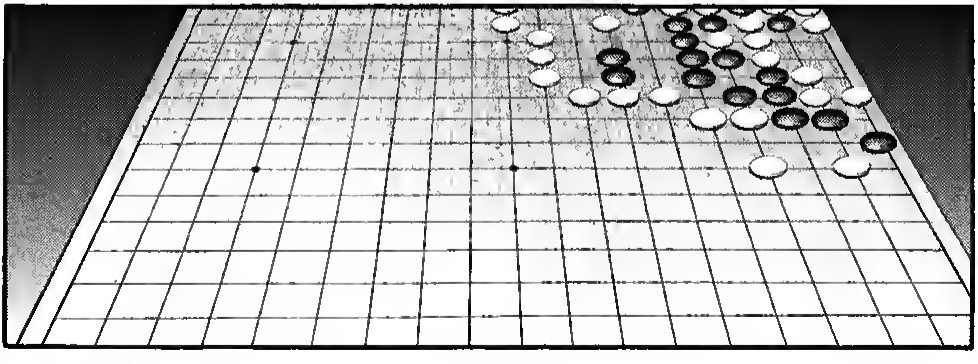
Would be but a fleeting moment in the Geten...
Fifty years in the mortal world...
SFX: Pom Pom
Must necessarily die someday.
All those born to this world...
SFX: Pom
Finally...
Understanding this without reservation is the seed of enlightenment, but also the path to regret.

SFX: Snap


SFX Woosh
WE RETURN TO GIFU ...
CALL MATSU-NAGA!
YES, SIR!

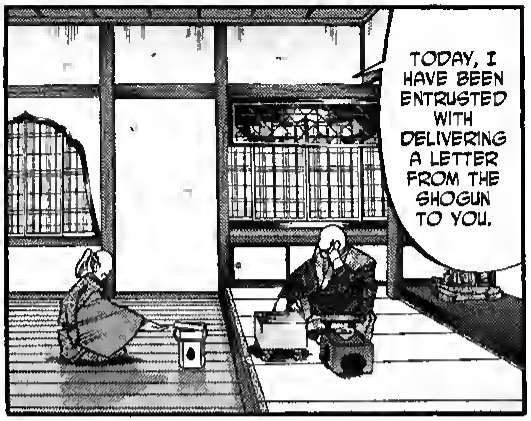
MOUNT MEKATA.
THIS IS THE PLACE WE SHOULD DO IT, AFTER ALL.

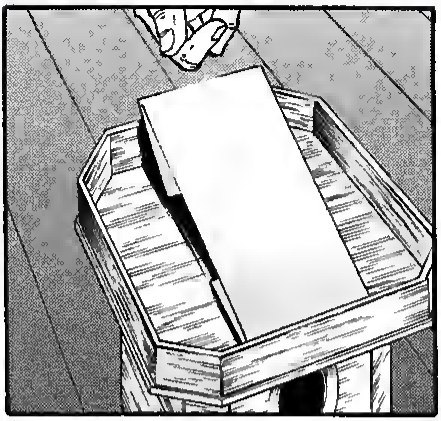
Vindores fire four

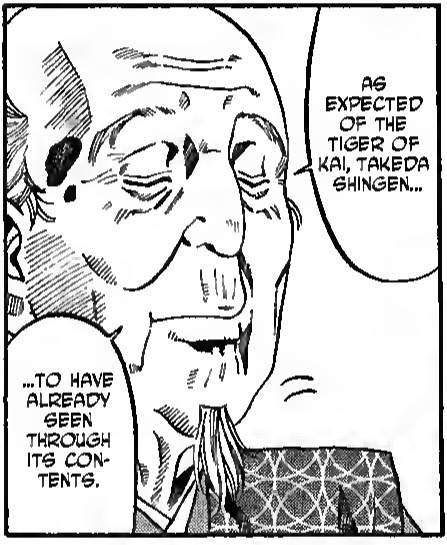


Fast like the wind,
Silent like a forest,
Intrusive like a fire,
Immobile like a mountain.

SFX Slurp
SFX Chew Chew
Hmm...
A BIT BLAND, IS IT NOT?
IT IS A HAKUDAKU RECIPE LEARNED FROM SOME MONKS ON THEIR WAY BACK TO MING...
OH, I MUST APOLOGIZE FOR THE REMARK THEN.


TODAY, I HAVE BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH DELIVERING A LETTER FROM THE SHOGUN TO YOU.



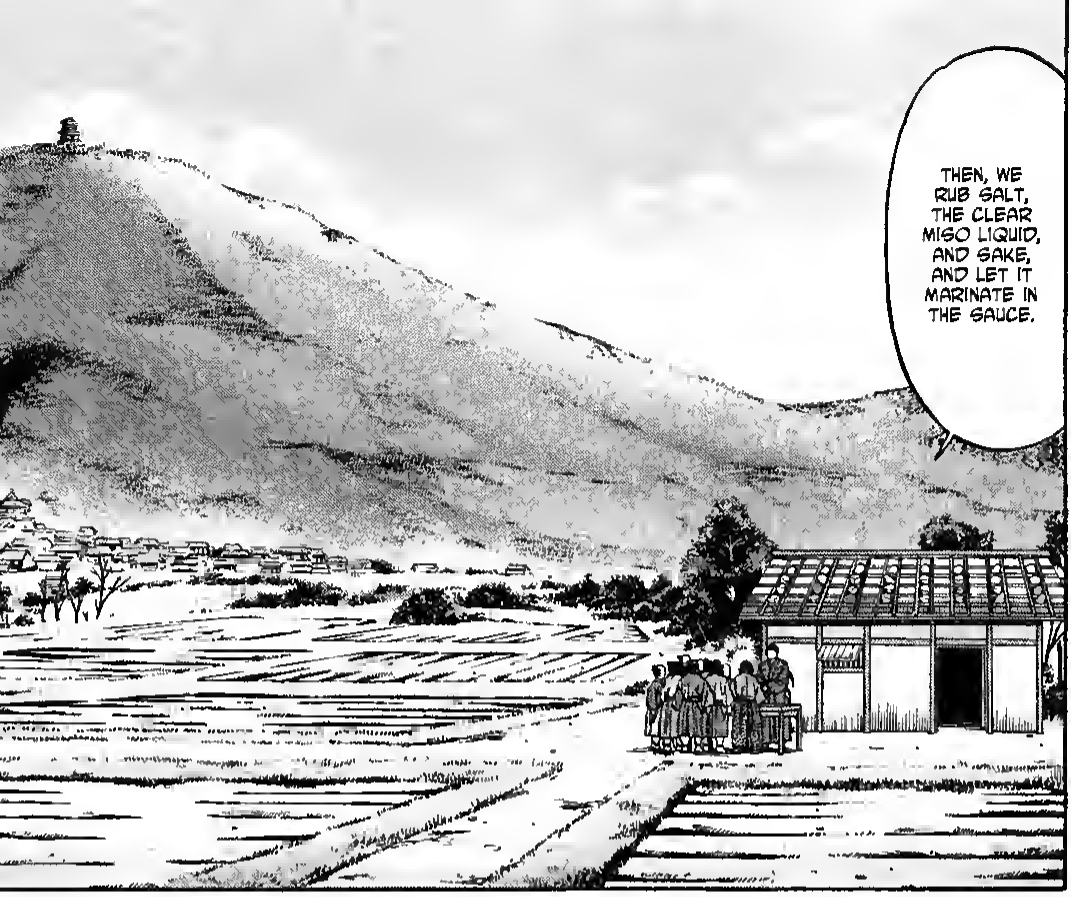

AS EXPECTED OF THE TIGER OF KAI, TAKEDA SHINGEN...
...TO HAVE ALREADY SEEN THROUGH ITS CONTENTS.

LEND MY STRENGTH TO THE CAMPAIGN TO OVERTHROW ODA NOBUNAGA, UNDOUBTEDLY.

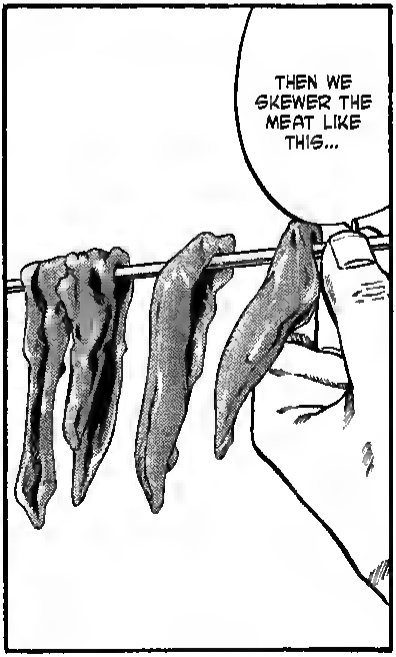
I ALREADY RECEIVED A SIMILAR REQUEST LETTER FROM MY BROTHER-IN-LAW, KENNYO.
IT APPEARS THEY ARE USING TACTICS TO PRESS HIM FROM EVERY QUARTER...

SFX Clack
THE SHOGUN MUST STAND STRONG, AS A SHOGUN SHOULD...
...FOR THE SAKE OF THE SHOGUNATE'S RESTORATION.
LET ME ASK YOU SOME THING...
WHAT DOES NOBUNAGA WANT FROM ME?

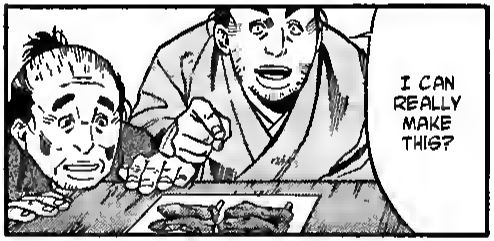
SFX: Glare
ジロリ
DO NOT MAKE ME LAUGH.
YOU, A LOWLY BYSTANDER...?
WHO KNOWS?
A LOWLY BYSTANDER SUCH AS ME WOULD NEVER PRETEND TO UNDERSTAND THE THOUGHTS OF SUCH A MAN.
MATSUNAGA HISAHIDE...
NOBUNAGA IS YOUR LIEGE.
HERE, AFTER REMOVING THE FAT, WE SLICE THE MEAT FINELY.

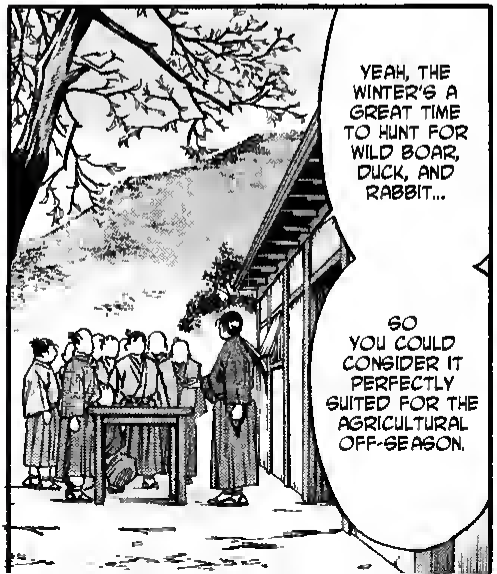

THEN, WE RUB SALT, THE CLEAR MISO LIQUID, AND SAKE, AND LET IT MARINATE IN THE SAUCE.

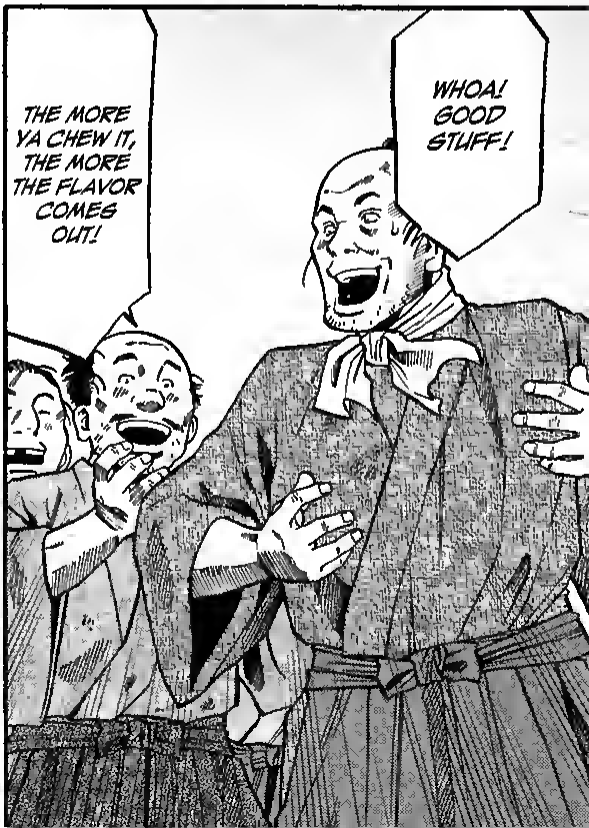
AND AFTER TEN DAYS, YOU'VE MADE 'JERKY'.
YOU CAN NOW HANG THIS IN THE RAFTERS OF YOUR HOUSE AND LET IT DRY IN THE SHADE...


THEN WE SKEWER THE MEAT LIKE THIS...

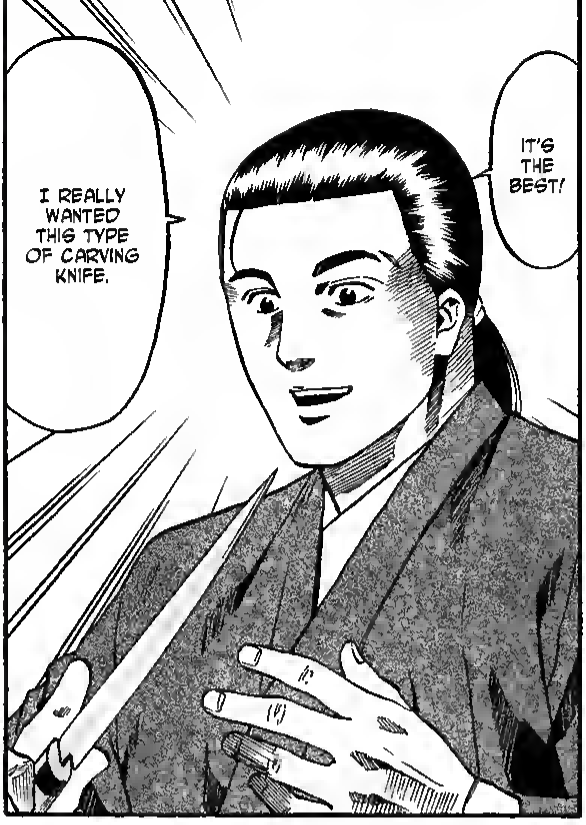
THIS IS THE RESULT...
TRY IT.
VERY.
HEY, KEN-SAN, THAT THERE DIFFERENT FROM PRESERVIN' IN SALT?
SFX. Munch
SFX. Munchmunchmunchmunchmunchmunch
SFX. Chomp


I CAN REALLY MAKE THIS?

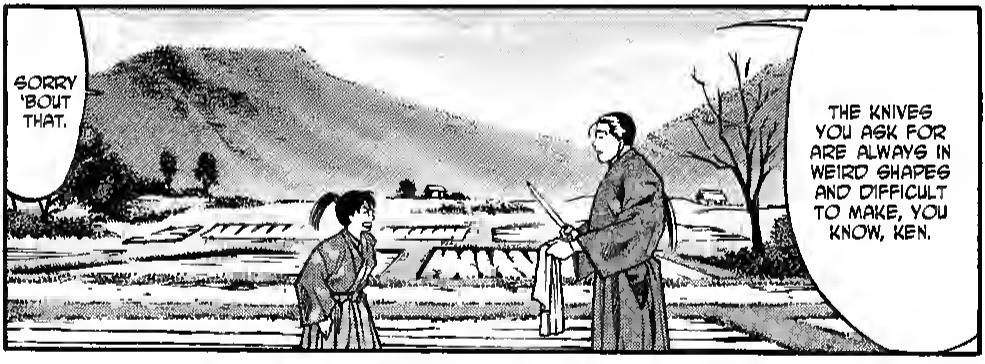

YEAH, THE WINTER'S A GREAT TIME TO HUNT FOR WILD BOAR, DUCK, AND RABBIT...
SO YOU COULD CONSIDER IT PERFECTLY SUITED FOR THE AGRICULTURAL OFF-SEASON.

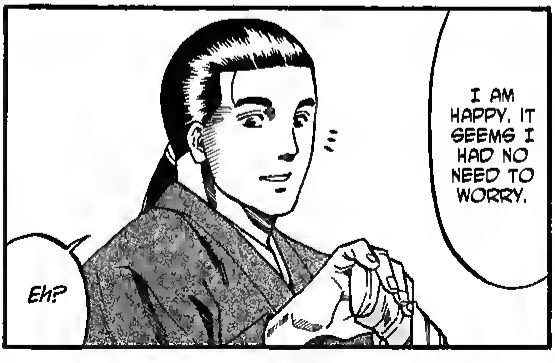

THE MORE YA CHEW IT, THE MORE THE FLAVOR COMES OUT!
WHOA! GOOD STUFF!

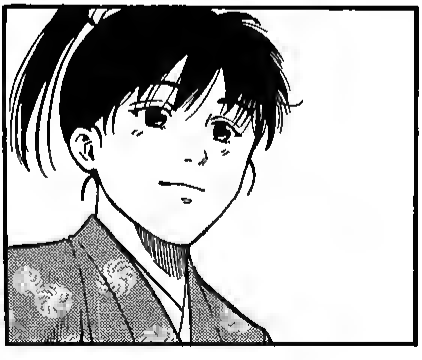
LET'S DO IT, ALL TOGE-THER!
WELL, THE HARVEST WENT REAL WELL AFTER WE DONE WHAT THIS 'ERE FELLA SAID WITH THE COMPOST...
YEAH!
SO LET'S ALL MAKE DELICIOUS JERKY TOGETHER!
I EVEN HEAR THE LORD WILL BUY UP WHAT YOU CAN PRODUCE, FOR MILITARY RATIONS.
SFX: Cheer Cheer
HEEEY, KEN!
NATSU-SAN!
WHAT'S UP? YOU HUNGRY ALREADY?
IT IS NOT LIKE THAT!
I AM NOT BEGGING FOR MORE FOOD!


I REALLY WANTED THIS TYPE OF CARVING KNIFE.
IT'S THE BEST!

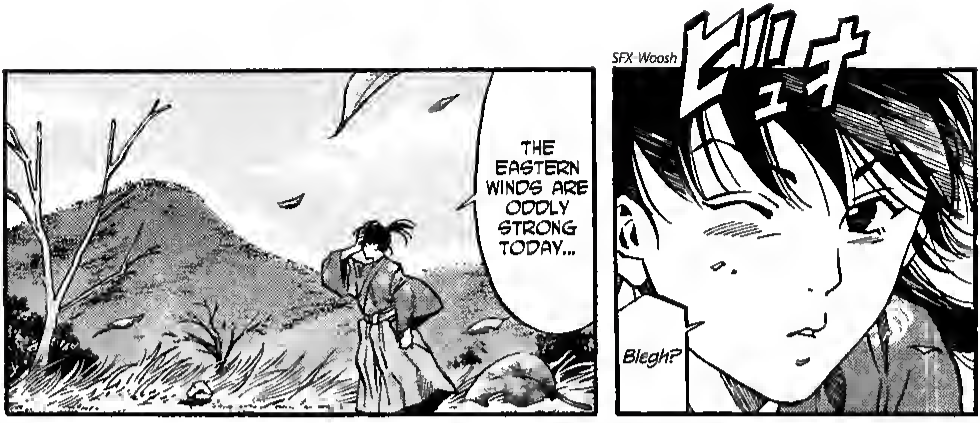
HOW IS IT? THE NEW KNIFE I MADE YOU?

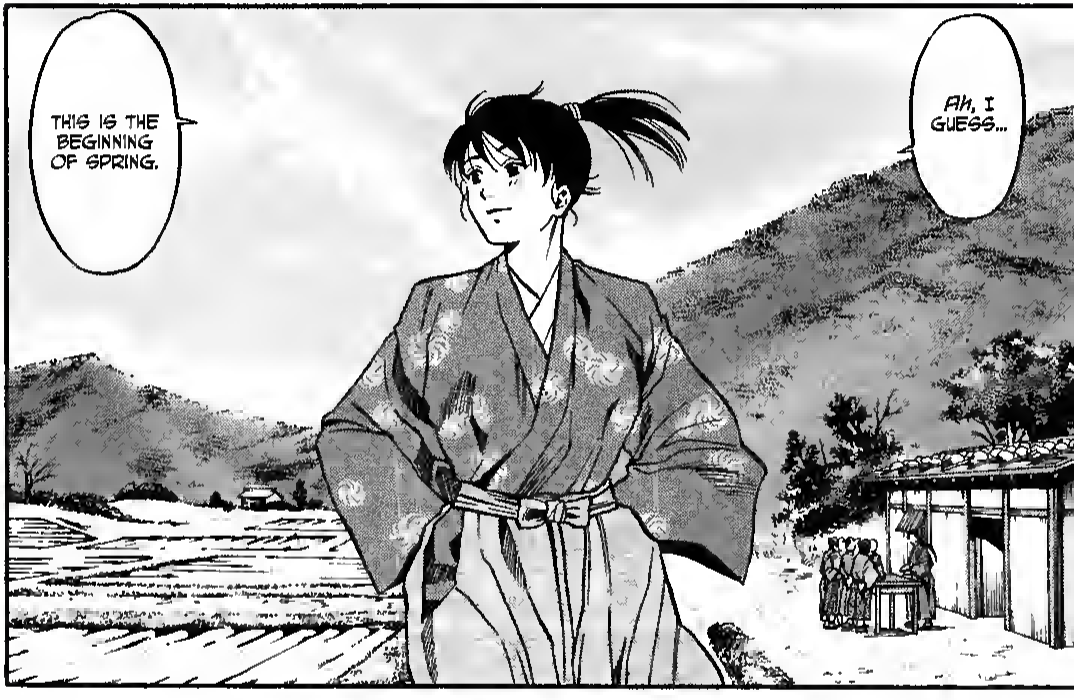

SORRY 'BOUT THAT.
THE KNIVES YOU ASK FOR ARE ALWAYS IN WEIRD SHAPES AND DIFFICULT TO MAKE, YOU KNOW, KEN.


I AM HAPPY. IT SEEMS I HAD NO NEED TO WORRY.
Eh?

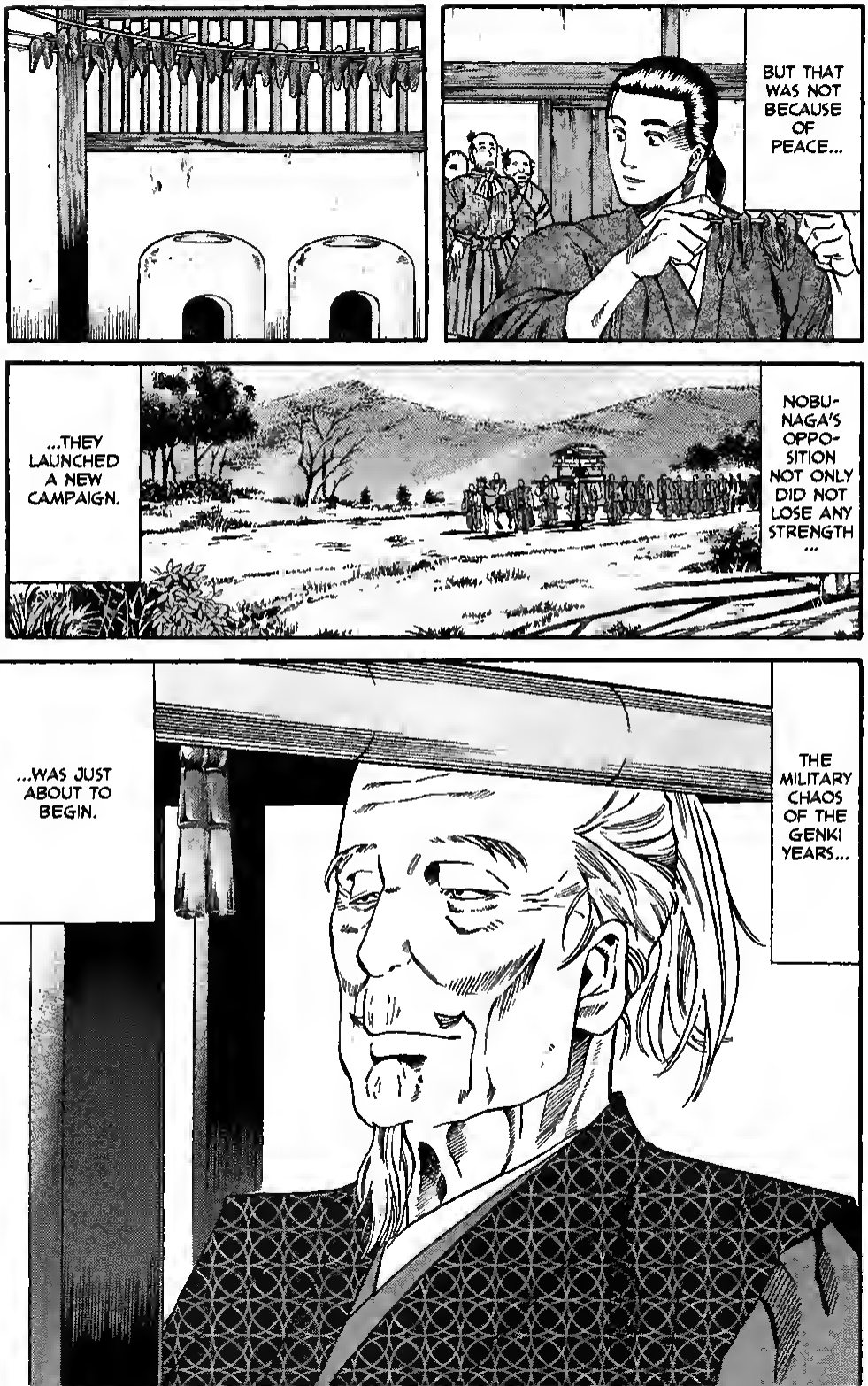


THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE I HAVE TO COME HOME TO, NATSU-SAN.
I THOUGHT THAT... YOU MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN SICK OF THE FIGHTING AND RUN OFF SOMEWHERE!
EVER SINCE MORI-SAMA PASSED AWAY, YOU HAVE LOOKED REALLY DEPRESSED...
I AM JUST HAPPY THAT YOU ARE LOOKING BETTER NOW.
KEN...
SEE YOU SOON, NATSU-SAN...
Ah, I'M CO-MING!
HEY, BIG FELLA, WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO 'ERE?


THE EASTERN WINDS ARE ODDLY STRONG TODAY...
SFX: Woosh
ヒュー
Blegh?

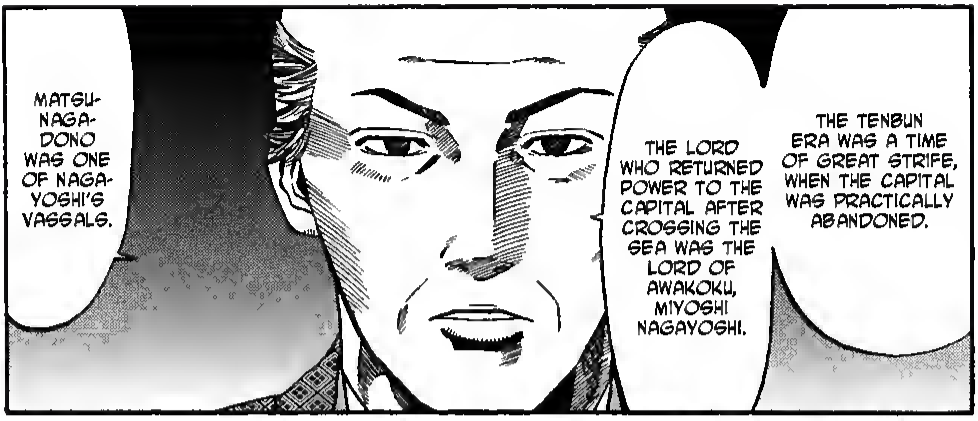

THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF SPRING.
Ah, I GUESS...

AFTER NEW YEARS, WHICH MARKED THE END OF THE FIRST YEAR OF THE GENKI, A VERY HARD YEAR, GIFU BEGAN TO RECOVER ITS VIM AND VIGOR AND GROWTH.
2ND YEAR OF THE GENKI (1571).


BUT THAT WAS NOT BECAUSE OF PEACE...
NOBU-NAGA'S OPPO-SITION NOT ONLY DID NOT LOSE ANY STRENGTH ...
...THEY LAUNCHED A NEW CAMPAIGN.
THE MILITARY CHAOS OF THE GENKI YEARS...
...WAS JUST ABOUT TO BEGIN.

INDEED. ENTER.
YOU CALLED ME, MY LORD?
I AM HOSTING A DINNER THIS EVENING..
YOU SHALL PREPARE THE FARE.
YES, SIR.
MAY I ASK WHO YOUR GUEST IS?

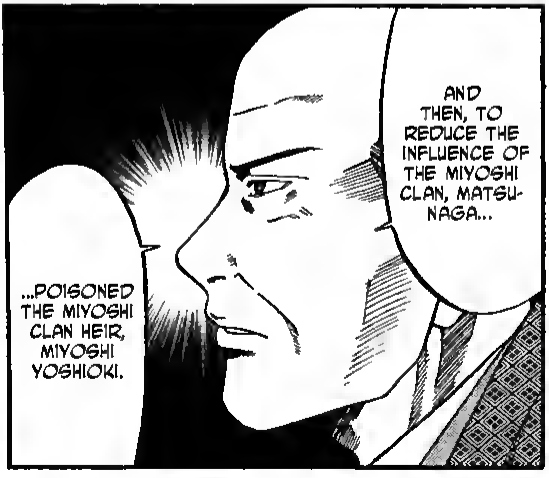
MATSU-NAGA HISAHIDE.
MATSU-NAGA...? I HAVE A FEELING I KNOW THAT NAME...
I WONDER IF HE'S A FAMOUS HISTORICAL FIGURE.
WHAT TYPE OF MAN IS HE?
HIS AGE AND BIRTH CAN GIVE INSIGHT INTO HIS TASTES...
MITSU-HIDE.
YES, SIR.
MATSUNAGA HISAHIDE IS AN ELDERLY MAN IN HIS 60S WHOSE ORIGINS ARE UNKNOWN.
AT PRESENT, HE, LIKE ME, IS A MAN WHO SERVES BOTH THE ODA CLAN AND THE ASHIKAGA SHOGUNATE.
ALSO, HE IS SAID TO BE A DANGEROUS INDIVIDUAL.
DANGE-ROUS... YOU SAY?
THREE TIMES, MATSUNAGA-DONO ACCOMPLISHED DARING FEATS FOR HIS SUPERIORS.

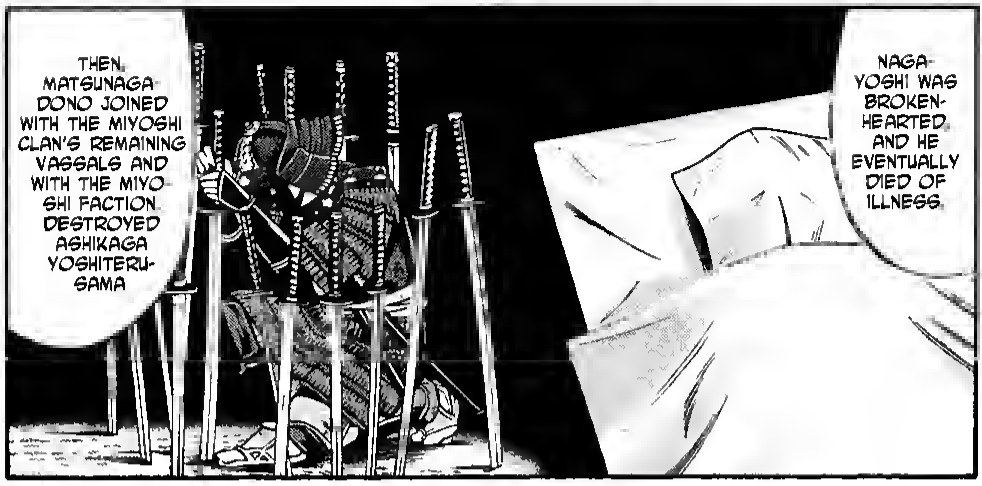

MATSU-NAGA-DONO WAS ONE OF NAGA-YOSHI'S VASSALS.
THE LORD WHO RETURNED POWER TO THE CAPITAL AFTER CROSSING THE SEA WAS THE LORD OF AWAKOKU, MIYOSHI NAGAYOSHI.
THE TENBUN ERA WAS A TIME OF GREAT STRIFE, WHEN THE CAPITAL WAS PRACTICALLY ABANDONED.

*Tenbun era: 1532-1554 by the Gregorian calendar

HE THEN UNIFIED THE COUNTRY OF YAMATO AND BEGAN TO INTERCEDE IN SHOGUNAL POLITICS. HIS OWN INFLUENCE CAME TO ECLIPSE EVEN HIS LORD, NAGAYOSHI'S.
MATSUNAGA-DONO SO SKILLFULLY UNDERSTOOD NAGAYOSHI'S WILL THAT HE EVENTUALLY ROSE TO BECOME THE MIYOSHI CLAN'S CHIEF VASSAL.

*Yamato: The name of a kuni located in modern day Nara




THEN, MATSUNAGA-DONO JOINED WITH THE MIYOSHI CLAN'S REMAINING VASSALS AND WITH THE MIYOSHI FACTION, DESTROYED ASHIKAGA YOSHITERU-SAMA
NAGA-YOSHI WAS BROKEN-HEARTED, AND HE EVENTUALLY DIED OF ILLNESS.

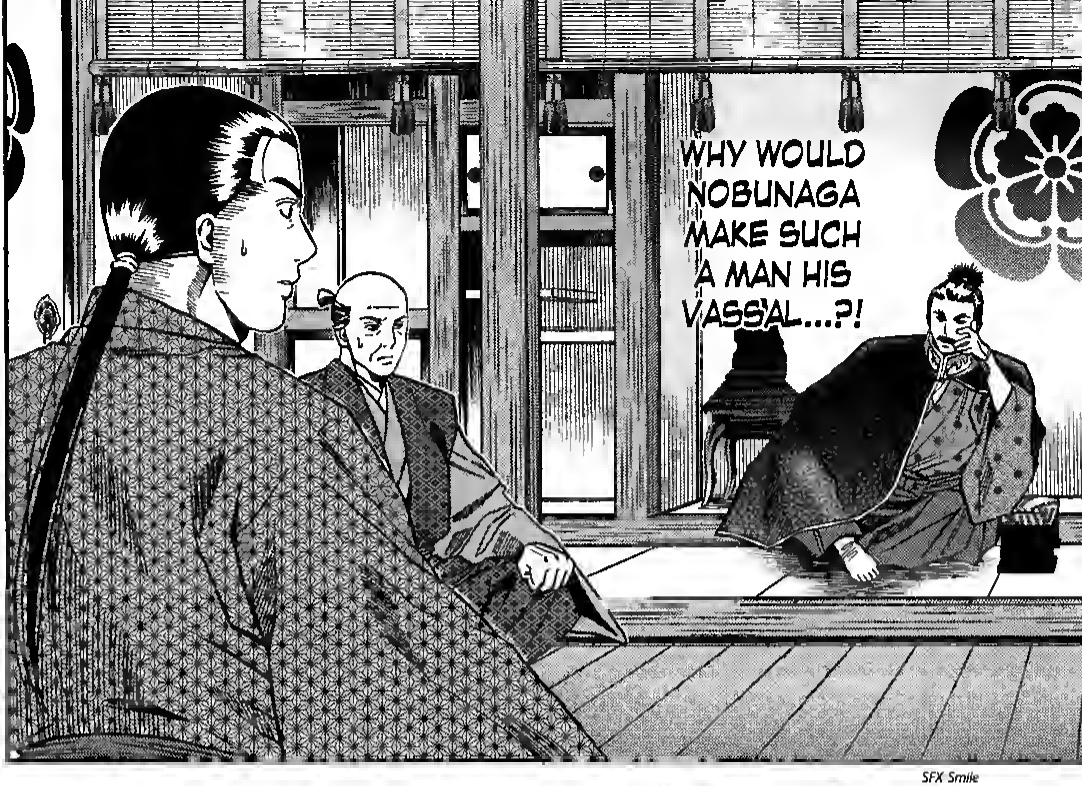
...AND BURNED DOWN THE GREAT TODAI BUDDHA...
FINALLY, WHEN ISSUES AROSE WITH THE MIYOSHI FACTION, HE ATTACKED THEM AT THE TODAI TEMPLE...

ALL OF THOSE ACTS ARE AGAINST EVERY RULE IN THESE TIMES...!
HE MURDERED HIS OWN LORD, KILLED THE SHOGUN, AND BURNED DOWN AN IMPORTANT BUDDHA...

SFX Glance

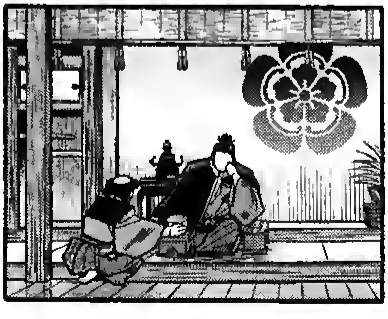
チラ

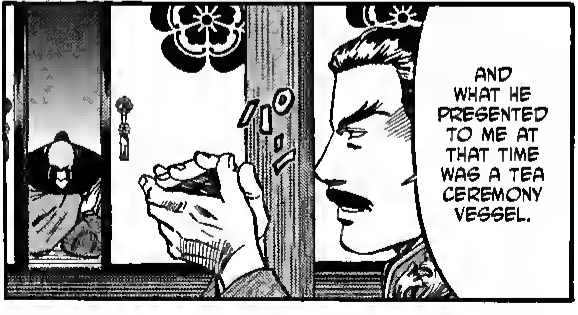
...

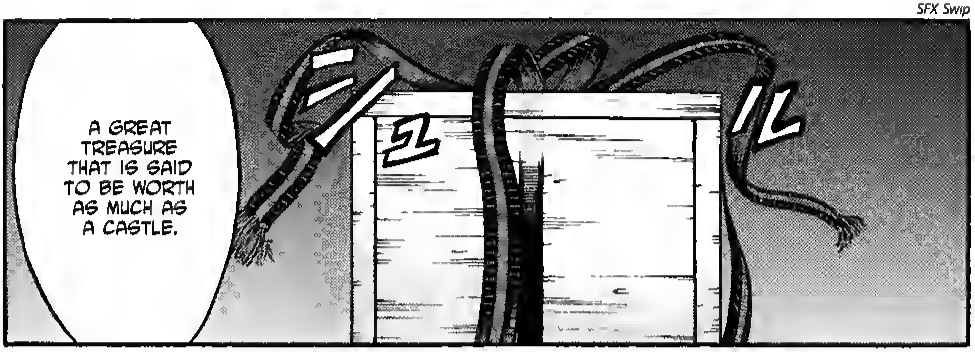


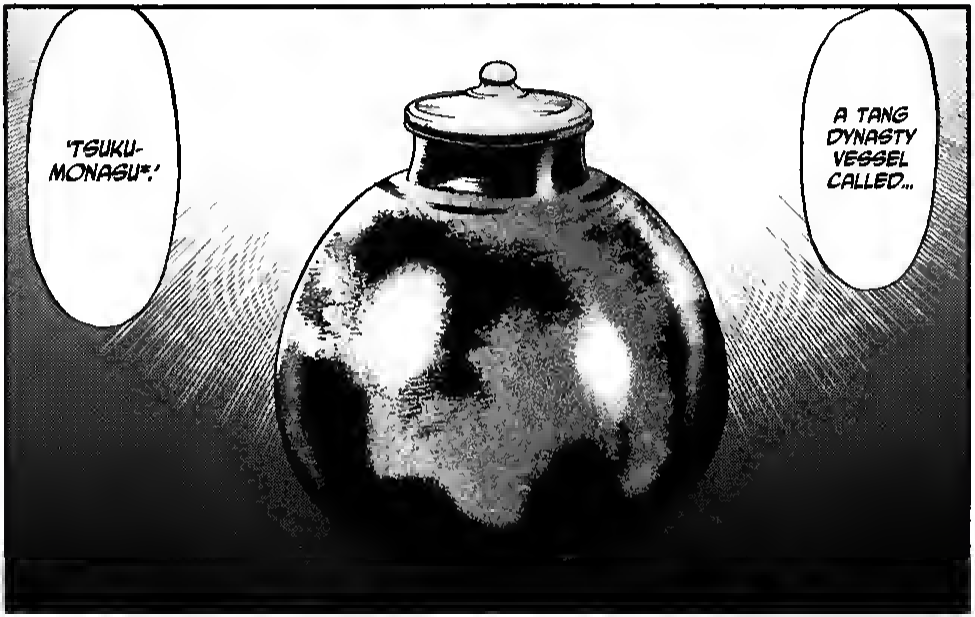
SFX Smile

SFX Clap



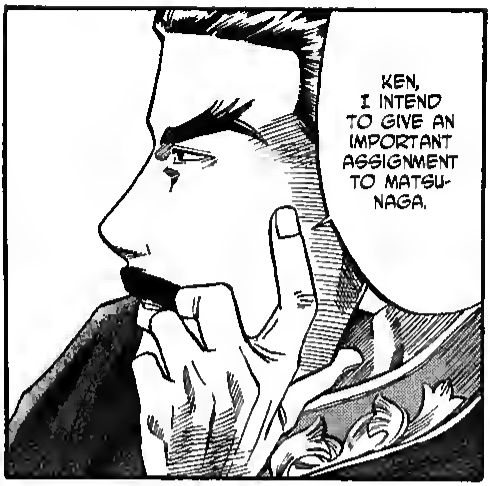






*T/N: The name literally translates to 'Eggplant of 99 Hairs. The meaning of this is rather complicated and comes from a double play on words. The word for 'hundred' in Japanese is very similar to the word 'White', while '99' is almost 100, so the meaning is that the eggplant shaped vessel is almost perfect, but has 99 out of 100 white hairs.

FOR THAT PURPOSE, I HAVE TO BE ABLE TO SEE HIS TRUE WORTH.


KEN, I INTEND TO GIVE AN IMPORTANT ASSIGNMENT TO MATSU-NAGA.

...SHOW ME THE INSIDE OF MATSUNAGA'S STOMACH.
KEN, AT THE DINNER TONIGHT...

SCS

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NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

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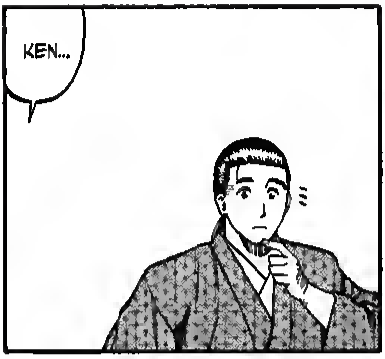
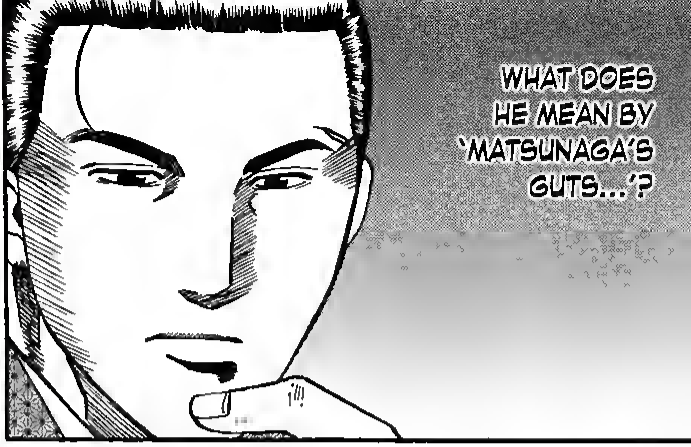
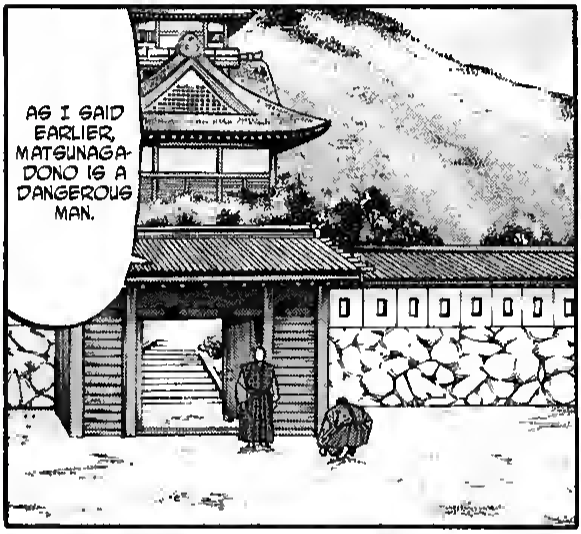
Chapter 54 One Thousand Kanbun Coin Reparation


KEN...

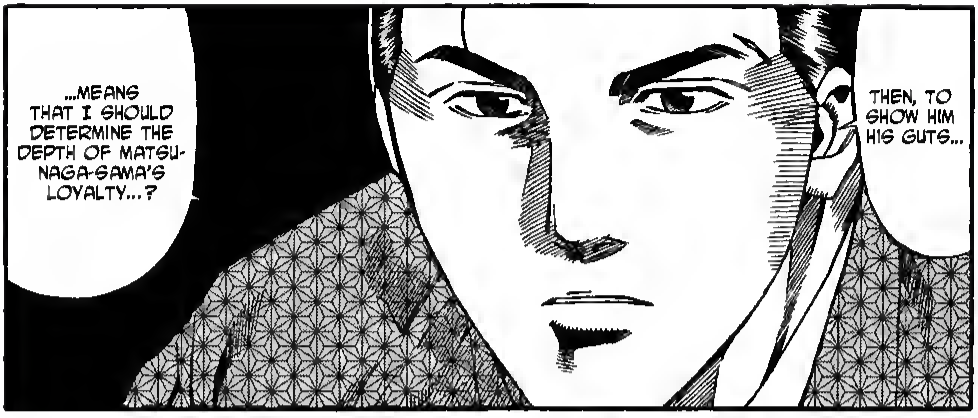

WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY 'MATSUNAGA'S GUTS...'?


AS I SAID EARLIER, MATSUNAGA-DONO IS A DANGEROUS MAN.

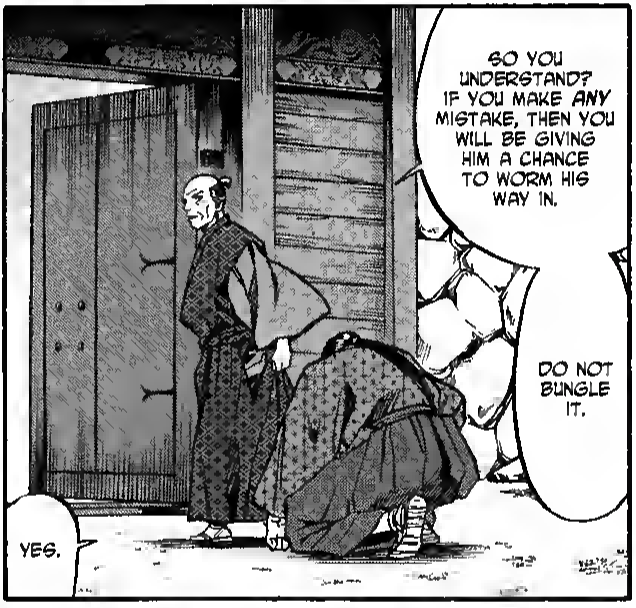
AKECHI-SAMA...

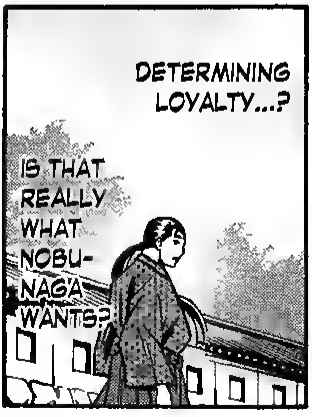
I BELIEVE THAT THE LORD MUST BE TRYING TO GAUGE MATSUNAGA-DONO'S TRUE INTENTIONS.

HOWEVER, WE SUSPECT HE MAY INTEND TO LAUNCH A COUP.
MATSUNAGA-DONO IS A VERY *CLEVER* AND POWERFUL MAN. HE ADROITLY SHOWED HIS SURRENDER WITH THE PRESENTATION OF THE TSUKUMONASU...


...MEANS THAT I SHOULD DETERMINE THE DEPTH OF MATSU-NAGA-SAMA'S LOYALTY...?
THEN, TO SHOW HIM HIS GUTS...

DETERMINE HIS LOYALTY WITH FOOD...


SO YOU UNDERSTAND? IF YOU MAKE ANY MISTAKE, THEN YOU WILL BE GIVING HIM A CHANCE TO WORM HIS WAY IN.
DO NOT BUNGLE IT.
YES.


DETERMINING LOYALTY...?
IS THAT REALLY WHAT NOBU-NAGA WANTS?

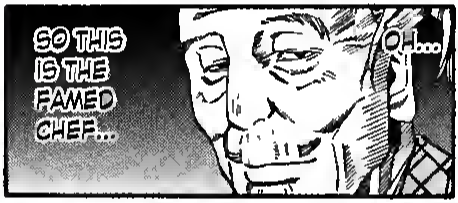
WELL, WHAT TYPE OF CUISINE CAN I USE FOR THIS...?
LOYALTY...

YOU ARE TELLING ME TO COOPERATE WITH YOUR PLAN?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
YES, AND ONE MORE THING...
IF YOU WANT TO SEE THE MATSUNAGA'S GUTS, I BELIEVE YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PAY A PRICE...
A PRICE ...?
YES...
WILL YOU LET ME USE THE TSUKUMONASU FOR THE DINNER?

YES, SIR.
I DID MENTION HOW VALUABLE THAT THING IS JUST A MOMENT AGO... DID I NOT?
Heh...
He-hehe...
SO YOU ARE ASKING ME HOW MUCH I AM WILLING TO INVEST INTO THIS, eh?
VERY WELL.
USE IT AS YOU PLEASE.

SFX Chatter Chatter
SFX Sizzle
IS THE SHOGUN BEHAVING HIMSELF?

...I IMAGINE HIS HEART IS QUITE AT EASE NOW.
YES, AS A MATTER OF FACT...
YOU SHOULD ALSO DRINK, MATSU-NAGA.
Whoa, SUCH WONDERFUL HOSPITALITY.
I SHALL HELP MYSELF THEN.

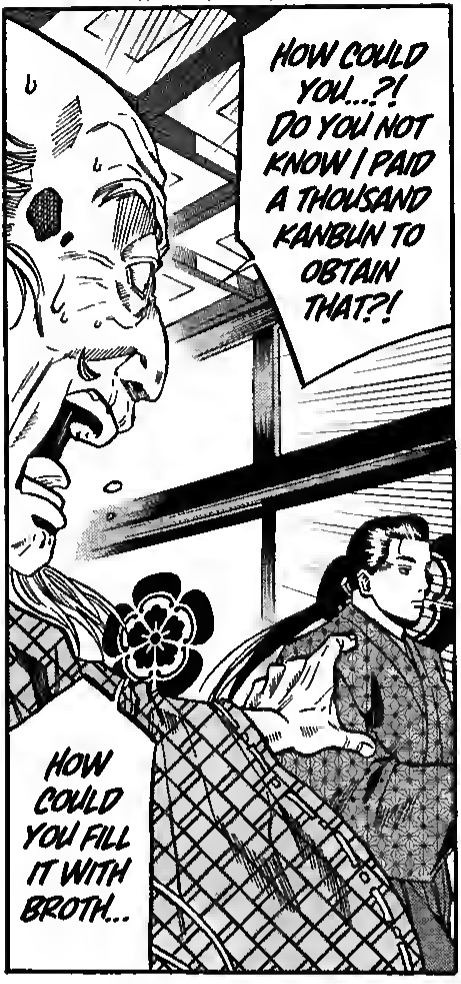

SO THIS IS THE FAMED CHEF...
Oh...

I HAVE BROUGHT THE REPAST.

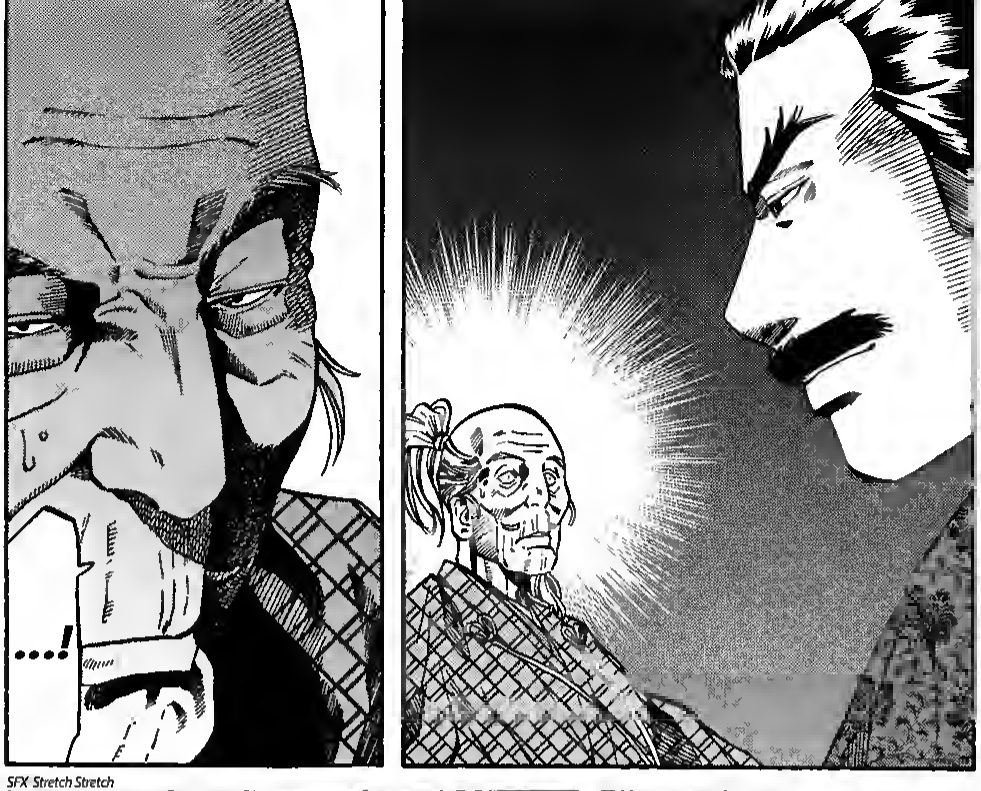
SALTED MEAT AND SEAFOOD OVER SCORCHED RICE.

IT IS SO BEAUTIFUL WITH ITS COLORFUL PRESENTATION.
NOW, WITHOUT FURTHER ADO...
PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT. IT'S STILL NOT READY.
THE IRON BOWL IS SCALDING HOT, SO PLEASE BE CAREFUL.
PLEASE POUR THIS BROTH OVER IT BEFORE YOU EAT.
...Huh?

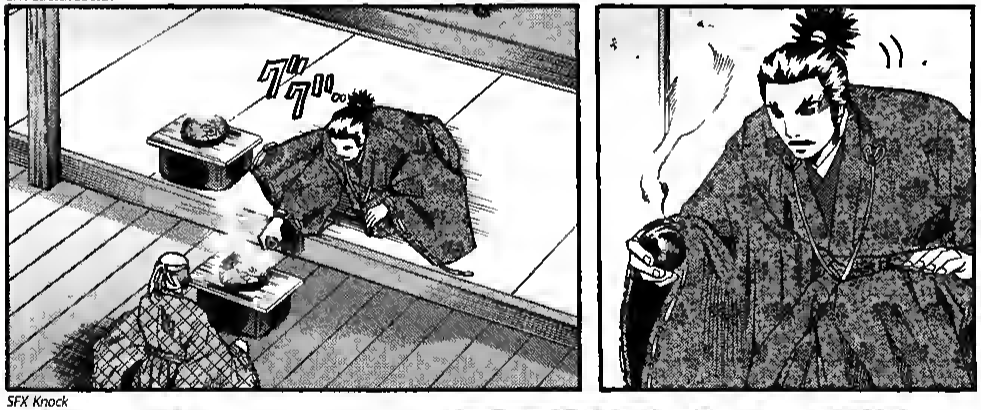
*A thousand kanbun is approximately 10 billion yen or 100 million dollars.



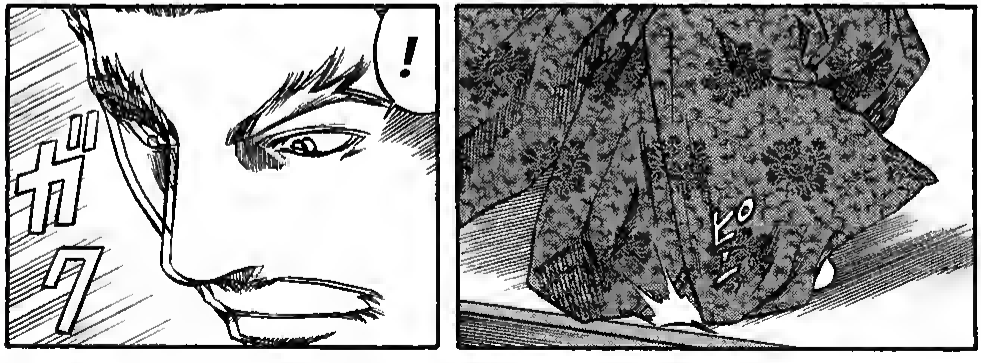
SFX Thump



SFX Stretch Stretch



SFX Knock

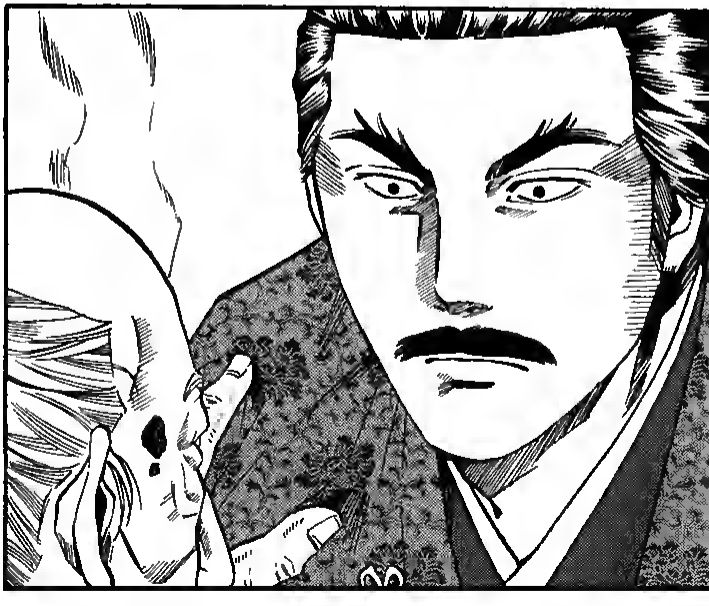


WAH...
OH NO!

SFX Slap
SFX Roll Roll Roll Clunk

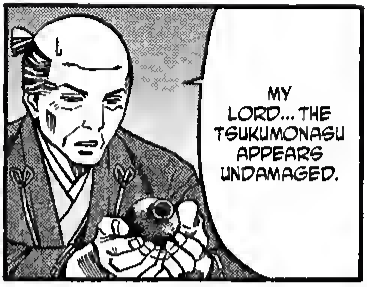
PLEASE TREASURE YOUR SAFETY...!
YOUR WORTH CANNOT BE COMPARED TO A SINGLE FIEF AND CASTLE.
MY LORD, YOU ARE THE MAN WHO SHALL UNITE ALL UNDER HEAVEN...
SFX Ssssss

Heh...
Hehehe

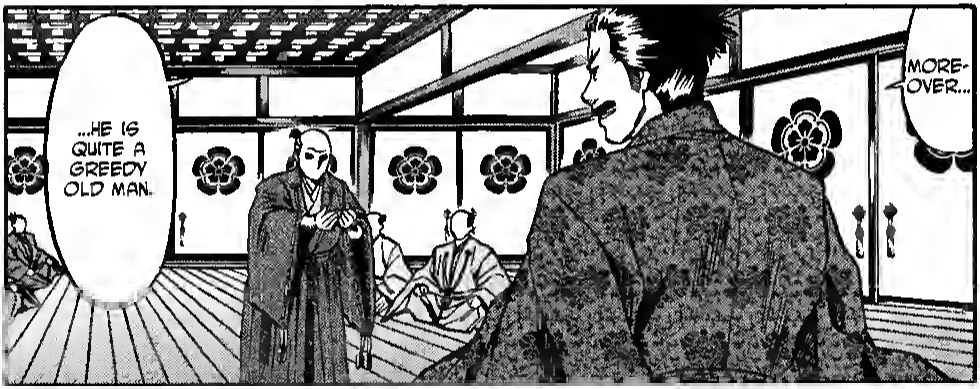


HAHA-HAHA-HA!
AHA-HAHA!
I SEE...
I SEE, HOW CLEVER.
SOMEONE LIKE YOU COULD EVEN KILL THE SHOGUN, IF HE WISHED.
PLEASE TREAT MATSU-NAGA'S BURN.
YES, SIR.
KEN.

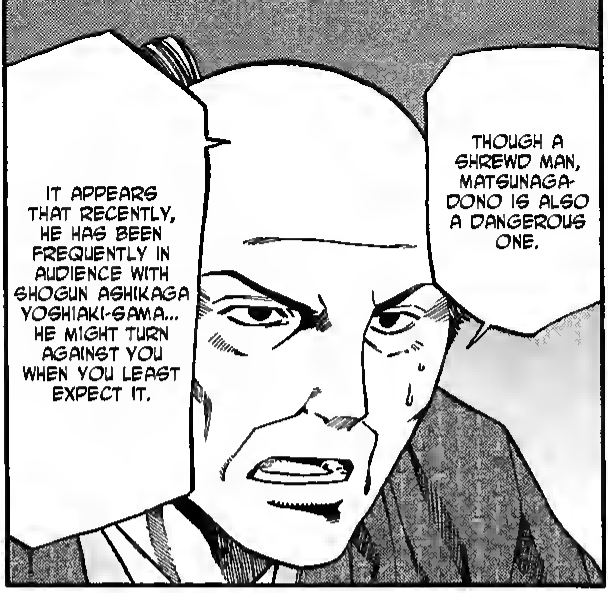
THAT WAS... AN ACT?
SO YOU WERE TESTING HIM TO SEE WHICH HE WOULD CHOOSE.
IF THE TSUKUMONASU HAD STRUCK THE IRON DISH, IT WOULD HAVE SHATTERED, BUT IF MY HAND HAD STRUCK THE IRON DISH, I WOULD HAVE BEEN BURNED.
PRECISELY.
...AND HE PLAYED ALONG WITH THE ACT...
MATSUNAGA READ MY WILL IN BUT A FEW MOMENTS.
SFX Hehehe
ｸｸｸ
...AND EVEN SAID, "PLEASE TREASURE YOUR SAFETY...!"
HOWEVER, FOR MATSUNAGA-SAMA TO BE THE TYPE OF PERSON OUR LORD TRULY WANTS...
IF IT'S JUST TO DETERMINE HIS LOYALTY, THEN THAT WOULD'VE BEEN ENOUGH ALONE...


MY LORD... THE TSUKUMONASU APPEARS UNDAMAGED.

I LIKE HIM.
HE IS CUNNING AND VERY PERCEPTIVE WHEN IT COMES TO PEOPLE'S INTENTIONS.


...HE IS QUITE A GREEDY OLD MAN.
MORE-OVER...

...SO IT WOULDN'T STRIKE THE IRON DISH...?
IS IT POSSIBLE... THAT YOU HIT THE TSUKUMONASU ON PURPOSE...

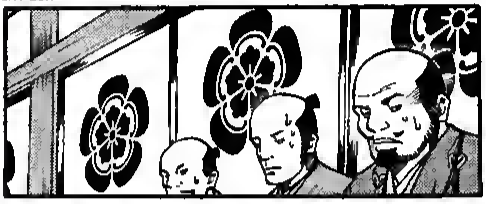

IT APPEARS THAT RECENTLY, HE HAS BEEN FREQUENTLY IN AUDIENCE WITH SHOGUN ASHIKAGA YOSHIAKI-SAMA... HE MIGHT TURN AGAINST YOU WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT.
THOUGH A SHREWD MAN, MATSUNAGA-DONO IS ALSO A DANGEROUS ONE.

LET ME GIVE ONE PIECE OF ADVICE, MY LORD.

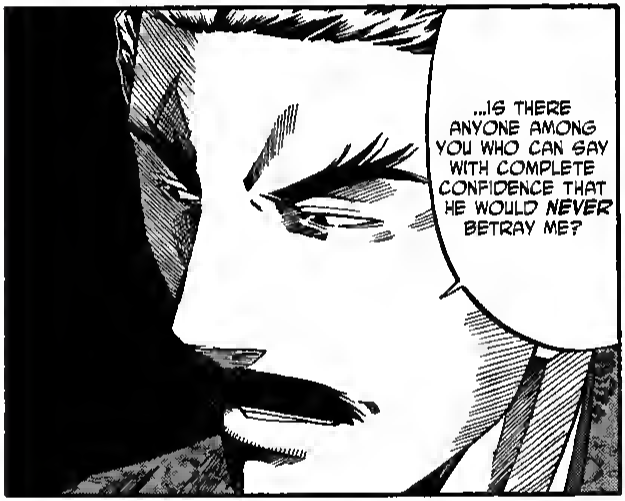
IT IS MY BELIEF THAT HE IS *NOT* SOMEONE YOU SHOULD ALLOW BY YOUR SIDE...

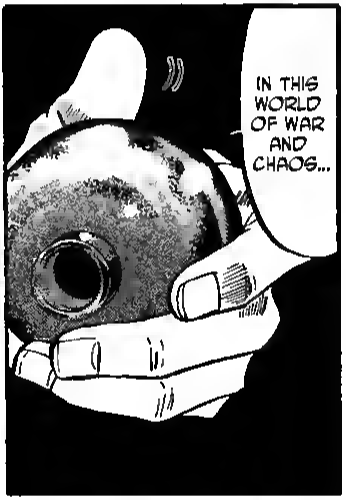
MITSU-HIDE...
...ARE YOU VOICING YOUR OPINIONS TO ME?

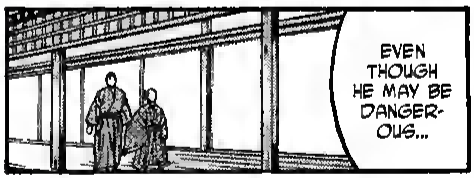
SFX Bow

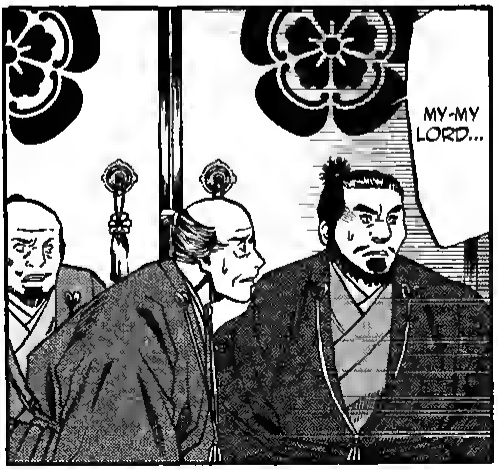


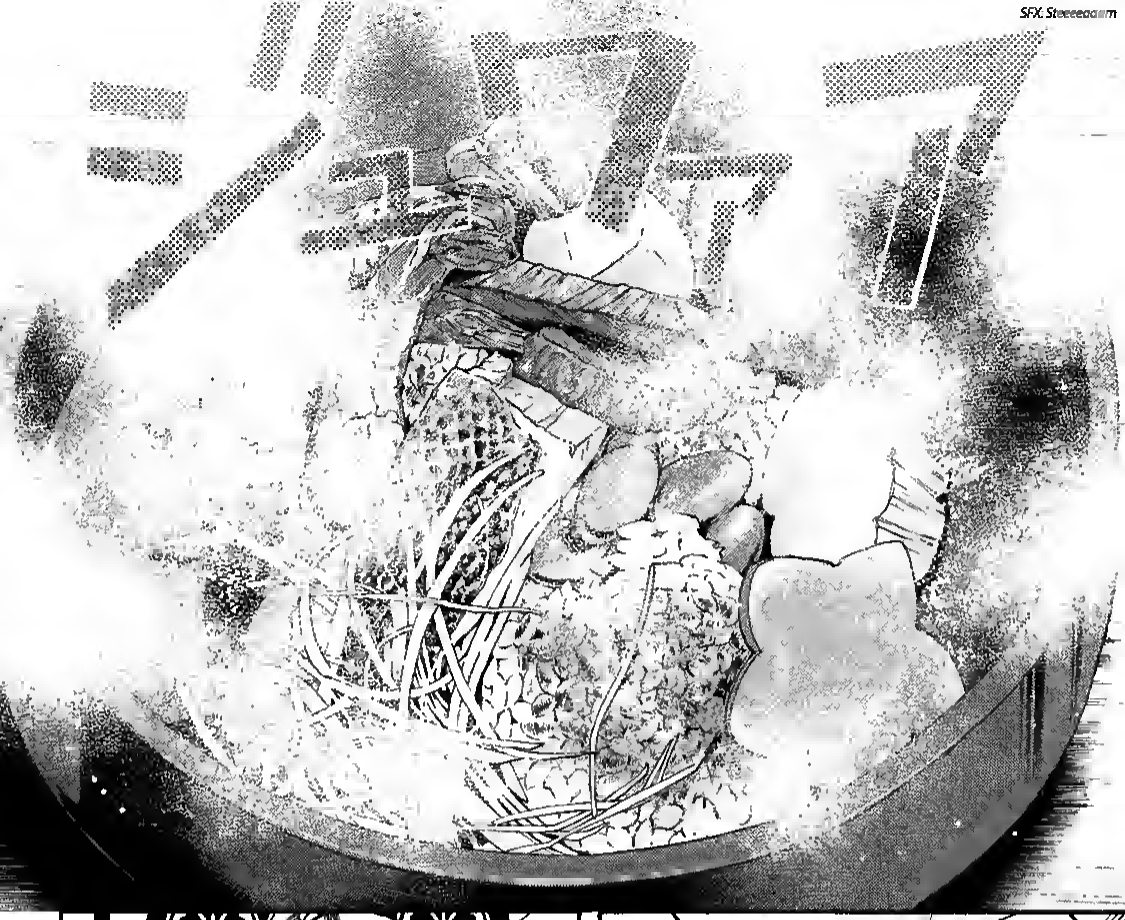
SFX Gasp

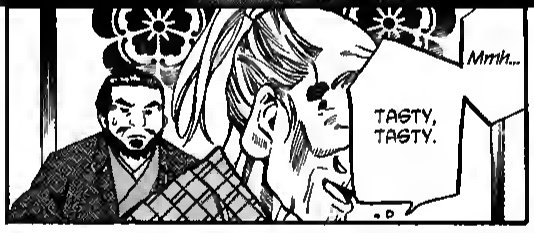


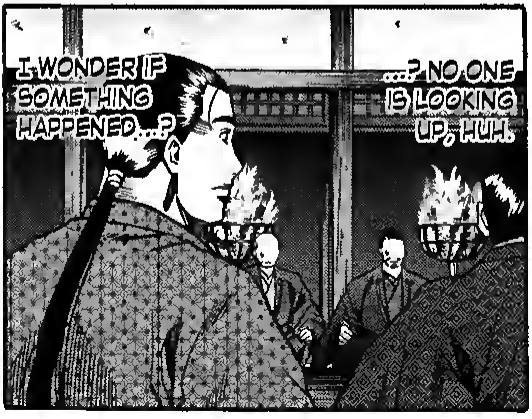




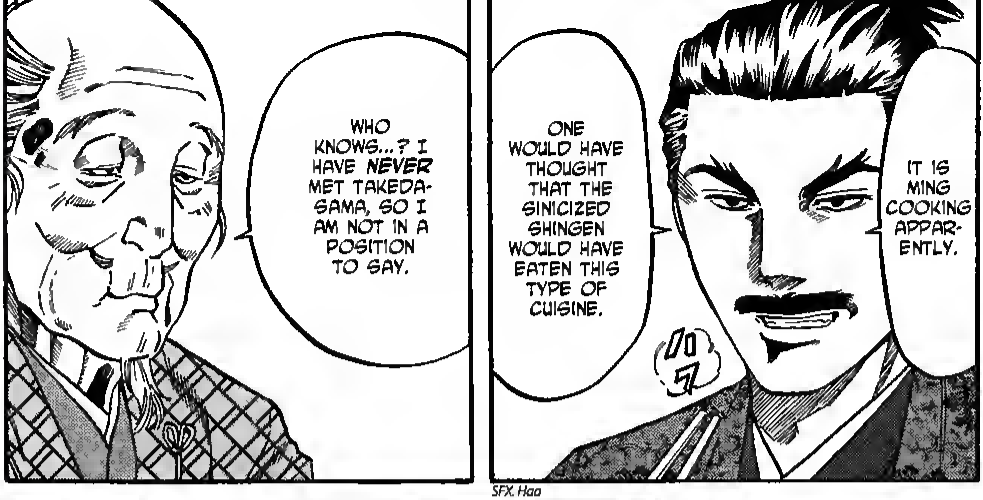


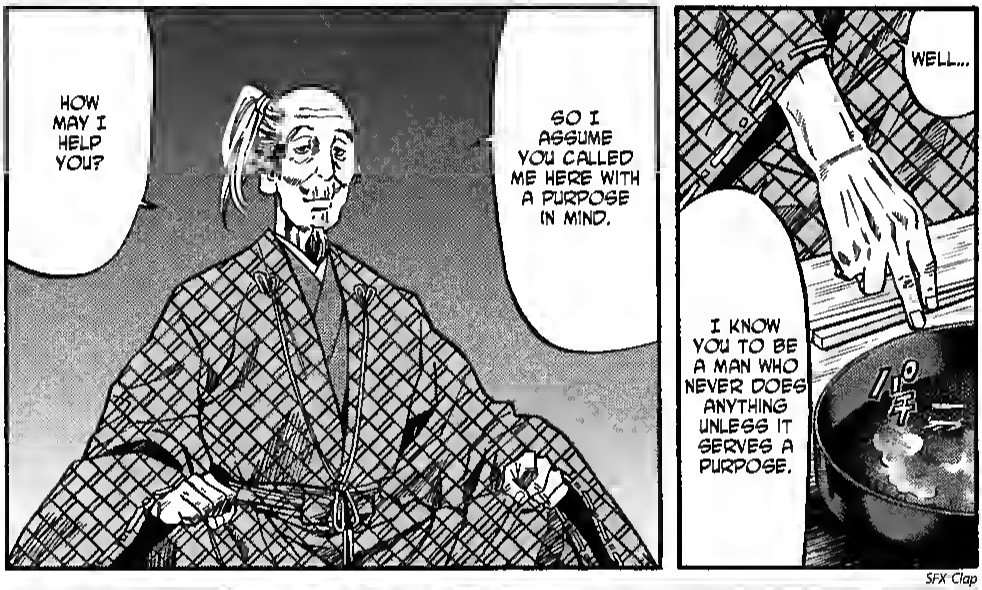



Mmh...
TASTY, TASTY.


I WONDER IF SOMETHING HAPPENED...?
...? NO ONE IS LOOKING UP, HUH.

Ohoo!
THIS IS JUST RICE?
I HAVE NEVER TASTED ANYTHING WITH THIS CONSISTENCY!


WHO KNOWS...? I HAVE NEVER MET TAKEDA-SAMA, SO I AM NOT IN A POSITION TO SAY.
ONE WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT THE SINICIZED SHINGEN WOULD HAVE EATEN THIS TYPE OF CUISINE.
IT IS MING COOKING APPARENTLY.
SFX: Hao


HOW MAY I HELP YOU?
SO I ASSUME YOU CALLED ME HERE WITH A PURPOSE IN MIND.
WELL...
I KNOW YOU TO BE A MAN WHO NEVER DOES ANYTHING UNLESS IT SERVES A PURPOSE.
SFX: Clap

WITH A CASTLE.
SFX: Grin

A CHEF OF NOBUNAGA

STORY BY MITSURU NISHIMURA
COMIC BY TAKURO KAJIKAWA

SCS

PRESENTS

NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: TALLRICE

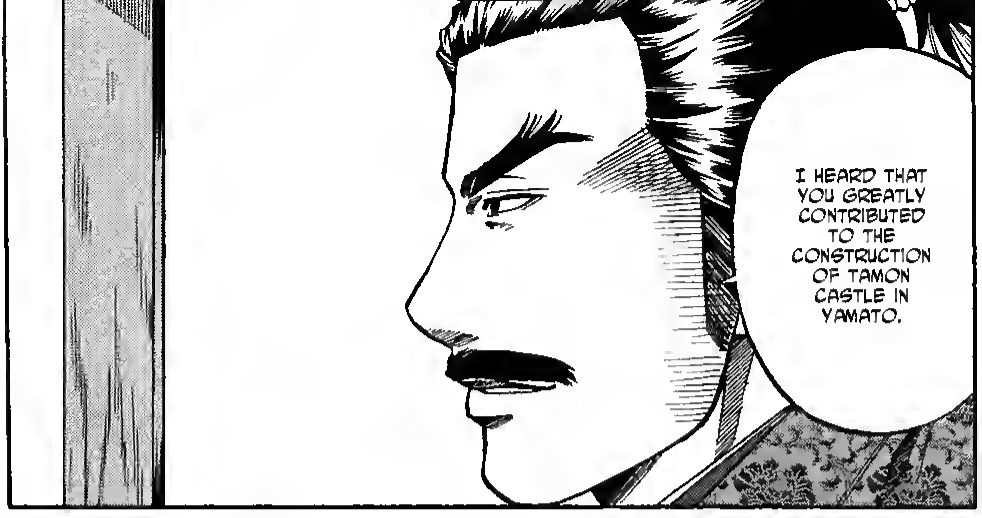
PROOFREADER: FALLACY

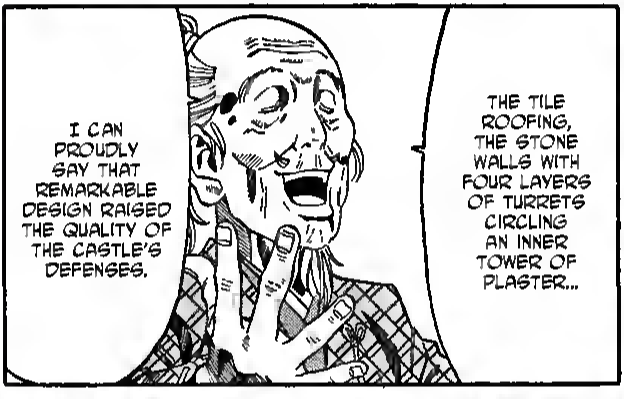
EDITOR: FALLACY

QC: PIMELEA

SFX: Chatter

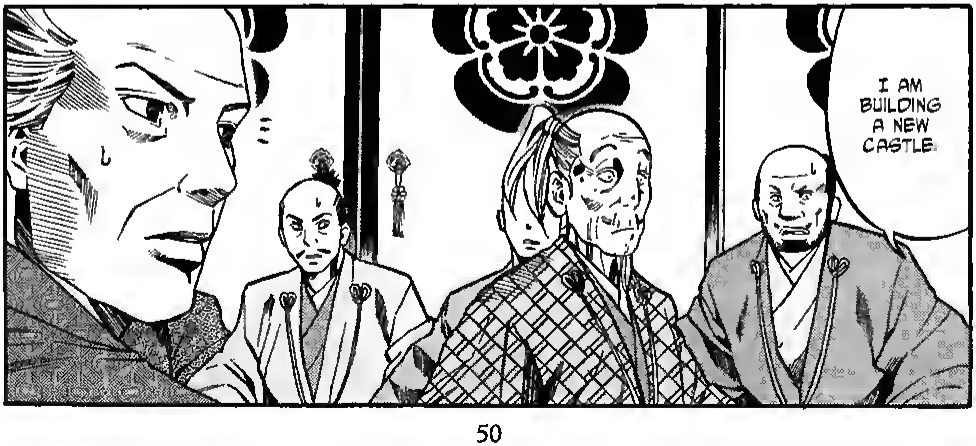
Chapter 55 Ken's Cooking Coaching


I HEARD THAT YOU GREATLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF TAMON CASTLE IN YAMATO.


I CAN PROUDLY SAY THAT REMARKABLE DESIGN RAISED THE QUALITY OF THE CASTLE'S DEFENSES.
THE TILE ROOFING, THE STONE WALLS WITH FOUR LAYERS OF TURRETS CIRCLING AN INNER TOWER OF PLASTER...

TAMON CASTLE!
OH, YES

BUT FOR HIM TO ALSO BE A TALENTED ENGINEER...
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, MATSUNAGA-DONO IS A FAMED TEA CEREMONY MASTER...

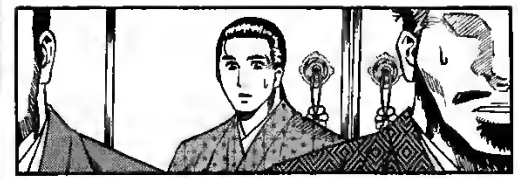

I AM BUILDING A NEW CASTLE.

I SHALL ERECT A SYMBOL OF THE NEW ORDER..
A CASTLE THAT SHALL SHOW THE STRENGTH OF THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN TO THE WORLD.
MATSU-NAGA...
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO PROVIDE YOUR EXPERTISE ON THIS PROJECT.

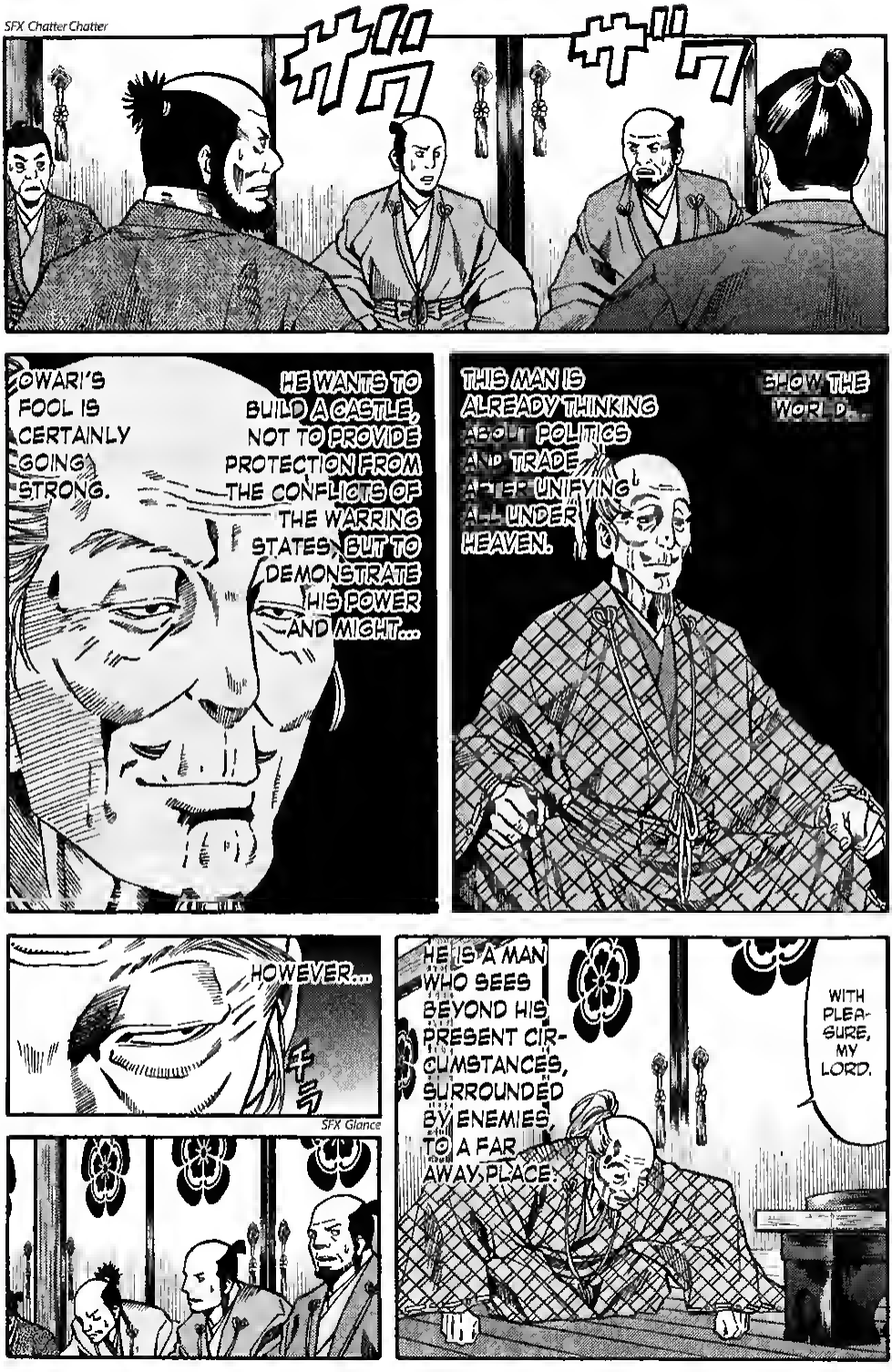
IT'S AZUCHI CASTLE!

SFX Chatter

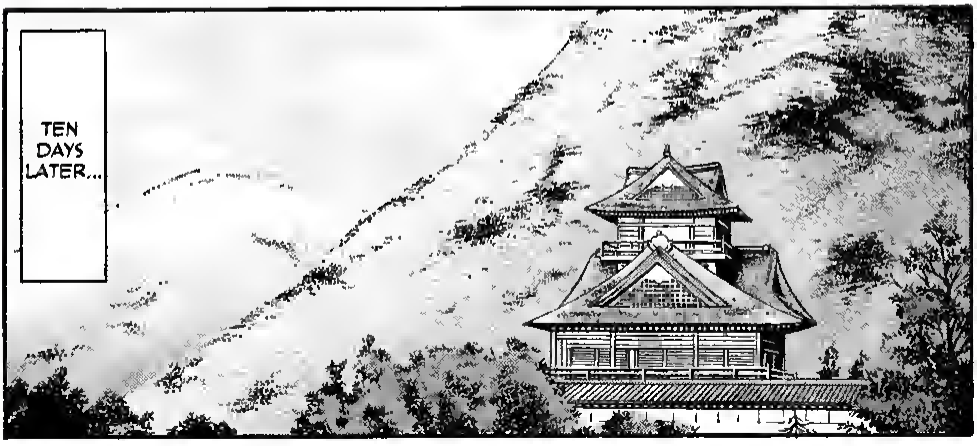
A SYMBOL... TO THE NEW ORDER?!



MOVING FROM GIFU CASTLE...
...TO A NEW ONE...


SFX Chatter Chatter
ナニ!?
ナニ!?
OWARI'S FOOL IS CERTAINLY GOING STRONG.
HE WANTS TO BUILD A CASTLE, NOT TO PROVIDE PROTECTION FROM THE CONFLICTS OF THE WARRING STATES, BUT TO DEMONSTRATE HIS POWER AND MIGHT...
THIS MAN IS ALREADY THINKING ABOUT POLITICS AND TRADE AFTER UNIFYING ALL UNDER HEAVEN.
SHOW THE WORLD...
HOWEVER...
チラ
SFX Glance
HE IS A MAN WHO SEES BEYOND HIS PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, SURROUNDED BY ENEMIES, TO A FAR AWAY PLACE.
WITH PLEASURE, MY LORD.

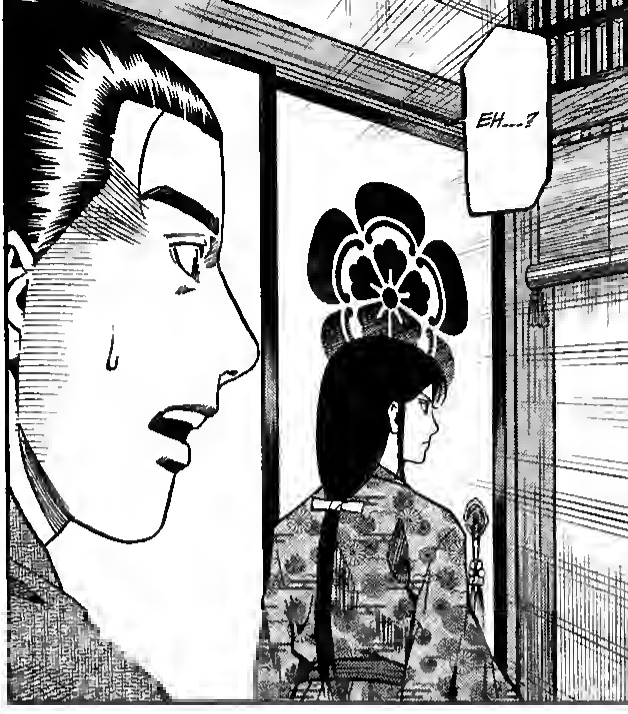
...THAT YOU DO NOT TRIP OVER THE PEBBLES THAT PILE UP UNDERFOOT.
BE CAREFUL WHEN YOU LOOK TOO FAR AHEAD...


TEN DAYS LATER...

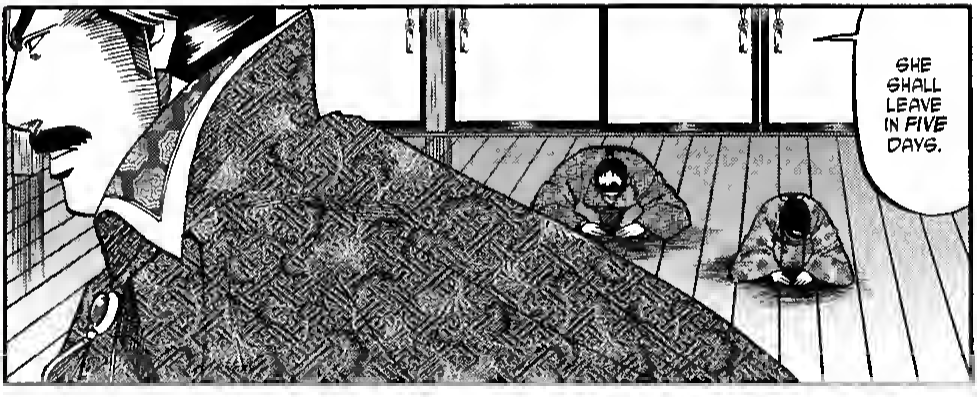
YES, SIR, I RECEIVED WORD THAT HE RETURNED TO THE SHOGUN'S SIDE AFTER STOPPING BY THE ISHIYAMA HONGAN TEMPLE.
MATSUNAGA IS IN THE CAPITAL, CORRECT?
VERY WELL.
YOU SUMM-ONED ME?
EXCUSE ME...

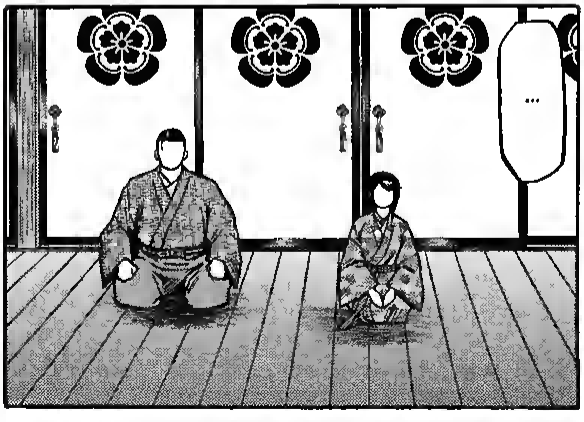
KAEDE-SAN...?
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
KEN, TEACH KAEDE HOW TO MAKE CONFEC-TIONS.
KAEDE...
...SHALL INFILTRATE THE ISHIYAMA HONGAN TEMPLE.

...THAT THOSE SWEET-TOOTHED MONKS WILL GOBBLE UP.
MAKE IT SO SHE CAN MAKE NANBAN SWEETS...


EH....?

SFX Stand


SHE SHALL LEAVE IN FIVE DAYS.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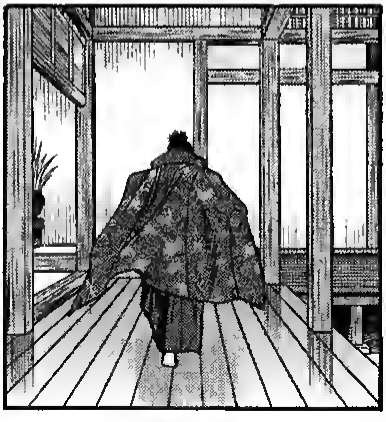
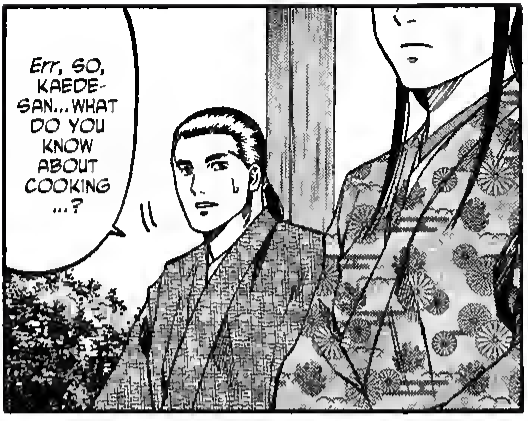
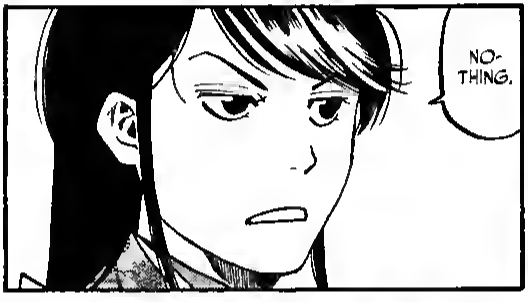


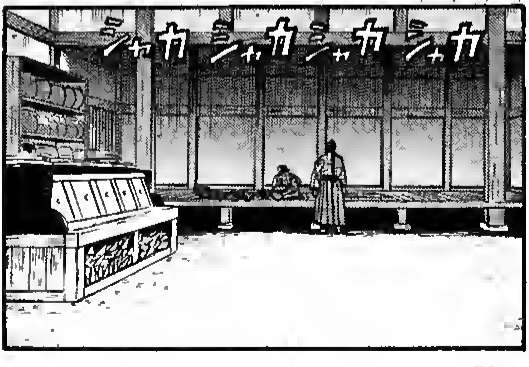




SFX Whip Whip Whip Whip

SFX Whip Whip Whip Whip

SFX Whip Whip Whip



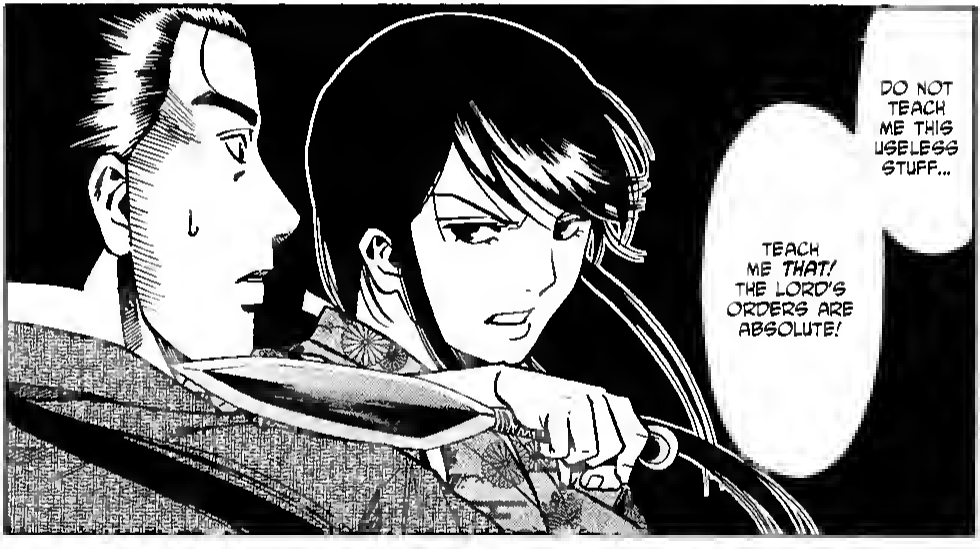
SFX Clank
SFX Whip Whip Whip
...!
WELL, BUTTER IS THE KEY INGREDIENT IN NANBAN SWEETS...
KEN, IT IS NOT LIKE I HAVE TO MAKE THIS, DO I?!
FUCK!
WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME FOR HER BODY TO GROW ACCUSTOMED TO THAT TECHNIQUE.
THE SECRET TO MAKING BUTTER IS HOW QUICKLY YOU WHIP BUBBLES INTO IT...
THIS IS NOT EVEN STARTING TO TURN INTO BUTTER?!
FUCK!

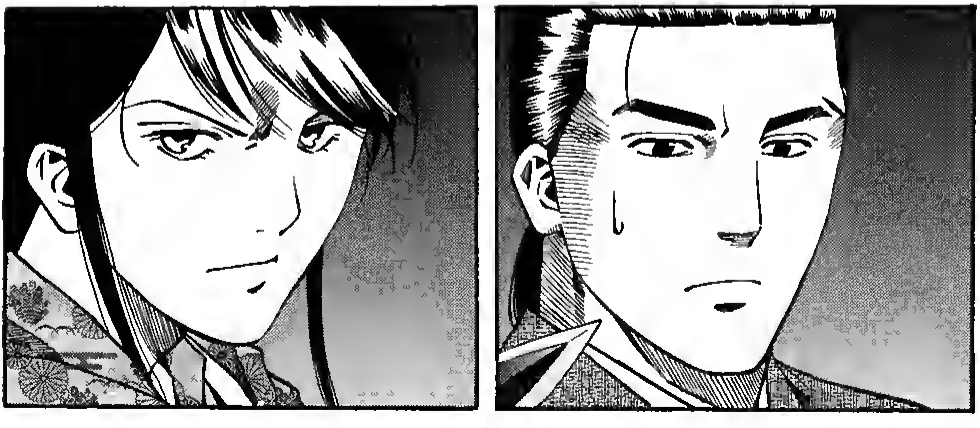
SFX: Whip Whip Whip
シャカ
シャカ
シャカ
THIS IS NOT FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT-- IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU!
SHUT UP!
IF YOU'RE IDENTITY IS EXPOSED BECAUSE OF YOUR HALF-BAKED SKILLS, THEN...
KAEDE-SAN, I THINK THIS IS RECK-LESS.
NO, I AM WORRIED.
KAEDE-SAN...
I HAVE TO START ALL OVER AGAIN.
MY HAND STOPPED BECAUSE YOU ARE SPOUTING SUCH NON-SENSE...
WHAT KIND OF SPY DO YOU THINK I WOULD BE IF I COULD NOT EVEN DO THAT?
INFILTRATING ENEMY CASTLES TO GATHER INFORMATION IS OUR MAIN JOB.

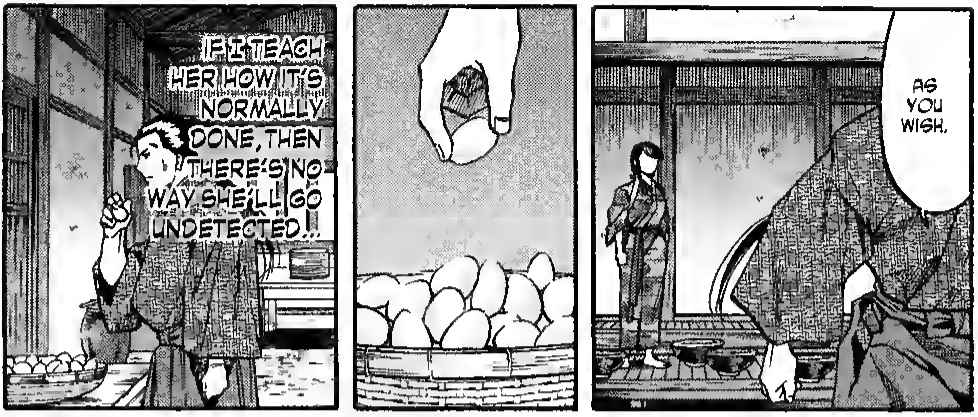
IF WE KNEW THAT, THEY WOULD BE DEAD ALREADY.
IN THIS CASTLE?! WHERE ARE THEY?
ミシャカ
ミシャカ
EH?!
EVEN IN THIS CASTLE, THERE ARE PEOPLE HERE WHO ARE SPIES.
IF YOU LEAK EVEN THE SMALLEST BIT OF INFORMATION AT THE WRONG TIME, YOU CAN BE UTTERLY RUINED... AND THAT IS WHY WE EXIST.
YOU CANNOT GO AROUND SAYING ANYTHING UNNECESSARY EITHER. GOT IT?
I DON'T EVEN KNOW ANYTHING IMPORTANT...

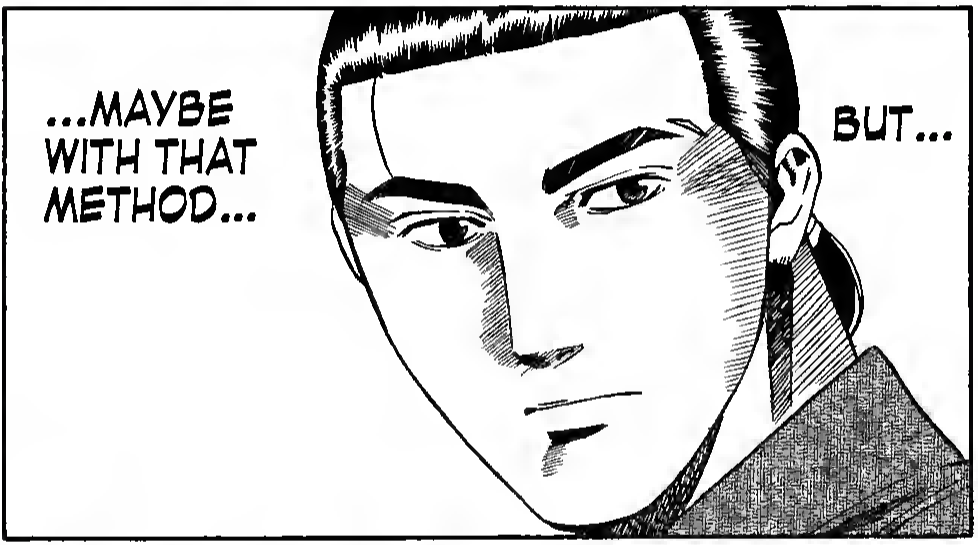
I SEE...
THAT MUST BE WHY NOBUNAGA ALWAYS SAYS THINGS SO LAGONICALLY, IN ROUNDABOUT WAYS...
SFX: Clank
カラ
SFX: Haa Haa
IF YOU LEARNED HOW TO PREPARE THEM THAT WAY, YOU COULD MAKE MANY TYPES OF SWEETS.
THERE ARE ALSO SOME THAT CAN BE MADE MORE EASILY...
WHAT WAS THAT ...?
FUCK, MY HAND...
I THOUGHT SWEETS WOULD BE EASIER TO MAKE THAN THIS.

SFX: Shiiing
THEN WHY ARE YOU NOT TEACHING ME THAT?
RIGHT NOW, THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO KNOW THAT TECHNIQUE ARE ME AND THE CHEF AT THE HONGAN TEMPLE...
THERE'S A HIGH CHANCE THEY'LL REALIZE YOU WORK FOR THE ODA CLAN, KAEDE...


DO NOT TEACH ME THIS USELESS STUFF...
TEACH ME THAT! THE LORD'S ORDERS ARE ABSOLUTE!




IF I TEACH HER HOW IT'S NORMALLY DONE, THEN THERE'S NO WAY SHE'LL GO UNDETECTED...
AS YOU WISH.


...MAYBE WITH THAT METHOD...
BUT...

SFX Pass
THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY, IMAI-SAMA.
DID KEN TRAIN YOU PROPERLY?
OH! I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU, KAEDE...

SCS

PRESENTS

NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: TALLRICE

PROOFREADER: FALLACY

EDITOR: FALLACY

QC: PIMELEA

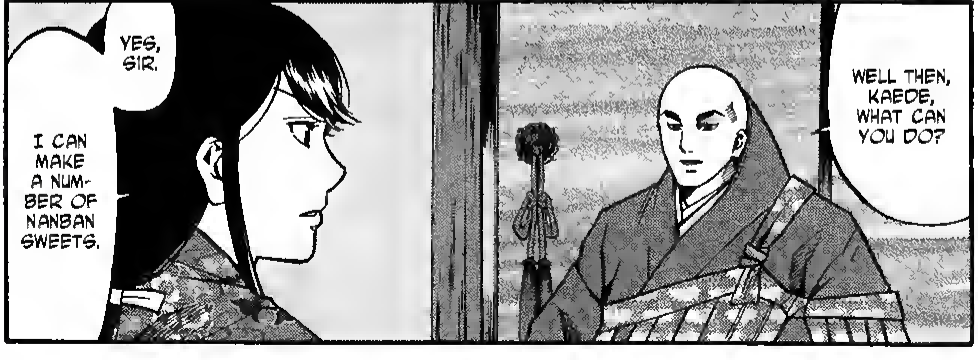
THIS GIRL HERE IS ONE OF MY ACQUAINTANCES.
HER PARENTS PASSED AWAY RECENTLY, AND SHE WAS HOPING TO SERVE THE BUDDHAS.
AND SO, YOU CAME TO MIND, YOU SEE?

Chapter 56 Kaede's Competition Confections

YOUR ACQUAINTANCE, YOU SAY, IMAI-SAMA?
AND WHAT IS HER NAME?

Ohoo...
YOU HAVE PREPARED ME SOMETHING DELICIOUS THIS TIME TOO.

I AM KAEDE.


WELL THEN, KAEDE, WHAT CAN YOU DO?
YES, SIR.
I CAN MAKE A NUMBER OF NANBAN SWEETS.

SFX Glance Glance

SHE SEEMS PRETTY GLOOMY.
SO THIS IS YOUKO...
SFX: Hmph
ACTUALLY, SHE WOULD LINE UP PERFECTLY BESIDE KEN.
BUT SHE IS DEFINITELY A TALL WOMAN.
SFX: Sprinkle Sprinkle
BUBBLE BUBBLE
DO YOU HAVE SUGAR?

KAEDE-SAN, LISTEN CLOSELY...
YOU HAVE TO MAKE THE SUGAR WATER FIRST...

...THEN SPLIT THE EGG WHITES AND YOLK...
...AND THEN, MIX THE EGG WHITES STEADILY PLEASE.

SYRUP ...?

SFX: Whip

シャカ
STEADILY!

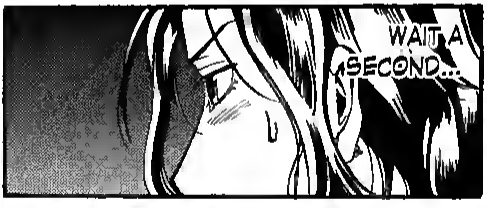
SFX: Whip Whip Whip
シャカ シャカ シャカ
SFX: Whip Whip Whip Whip Whip
シャカ シャカ シャカ
シャカ シャカ
DRIP
DRIP
SFX: Whip Whip Whip Whip
シャカ シャカ シャカ シャカ
SFX: Whip Whip
シャカ
シャカ
SFX: Whip Whip
シャカ
シャカ

MERINGUE...?!
...POSSIBLY BE...
COULD THIS...

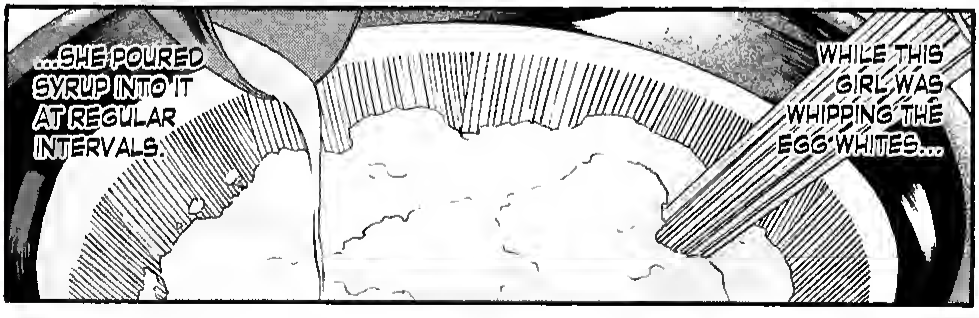
WHOA ?!
YOU, WHERE DID YOU LEARN TO MAKE THAT?!

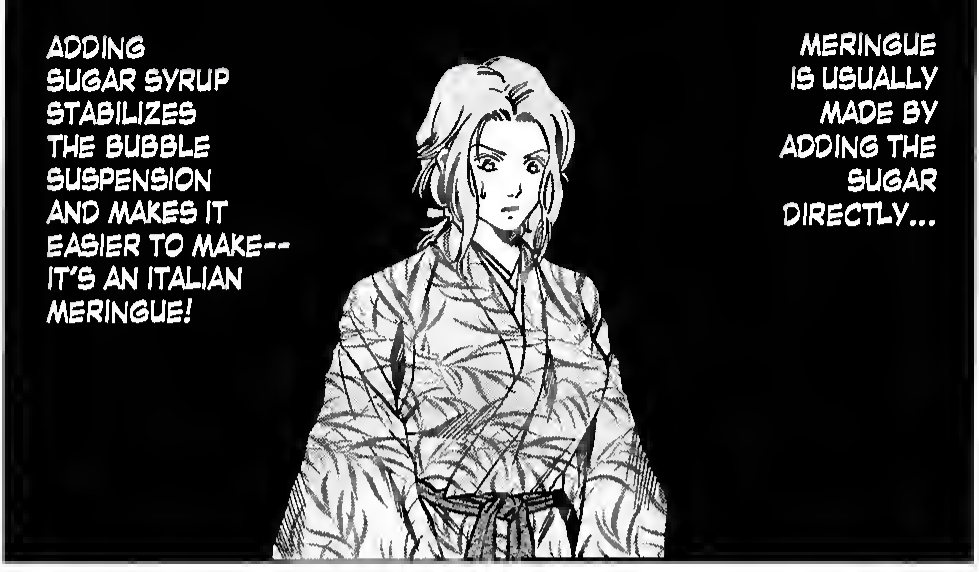
SFX: Grab

SAKAI?! BUT THE ONE WHO CAME UP WITH MERINGUE SHOULD HAVE BEEN A SWISS CONFECTIONER IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE 18TH CENTURY, NO...?!


WAIT A SECOND...

UH, IN SAKAI ...
A LOT OF NANBAN FOLK COME AND GO IN SAKAI.


...SHE POURED SYRUP INTO IT AT REGULAR INTERVALS.
WHILE THIS GIRL WAS WHIPPING THE EGG WHITES...


ADDING SUGAR SYRUP STABILIZES THE BUBBLE SUSPENSION AND MAKES IT EASIER TO MAKE-- IT'S AN ITALIAN MERINGUE!
MERINGUE IS USUALLY MADE BY ADDING THE SUGAR DIRECTLY...

BUT BACK THEN, IT WASN'T CALLED ITALIAN MERINGUE. DID THIS REALLY EXIST BACK IN THIS AGE?
I'D HEARD THAT ITALIAN MERINGUE WAS MADE EARLIER THAN THE STANDARD MERINGUE...

I DON'T KNOW...
IT'S NO GOOD...

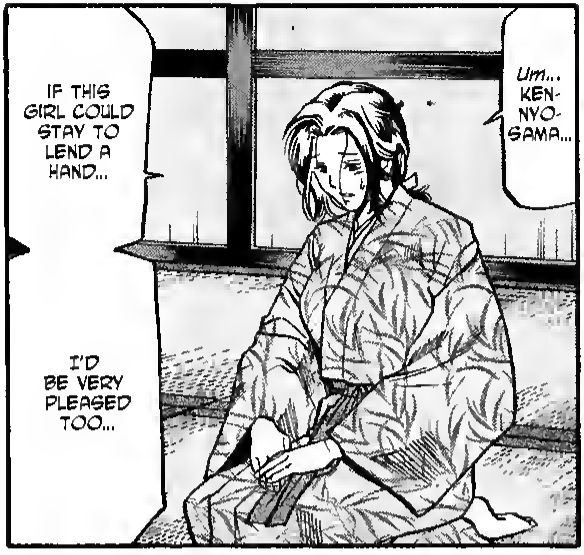
SFX Phew
ひひひ
IT'S NOTHING... PLEASE CONTINUE...

SHE'S SO YOUNG...
MAYBE EVEN FIVE OR SIX YEARS YOUNGER THAN I AM...
SO... I HEARD YOU LOST YOUR PARENTS...
ISN'T IT HARD FOR YOU TO BE AWAY FROM YOUR HOME...?
THE SIBLINGS AND FRIENDS YOU LEFT BEHIND... AND LOVERS PERHAPS... DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE THEM AGAIN?
DON'T YOU WANT TO GO BACK...?

THERE IS NO WAY I COULD SURVIVE IN THIS WORLD!
KAEDE...
WORRYING ABOUT SUCH THINGS...
Uh... SO THAT IS WHY I WANTED TO WORK UNDER THE BUDDHAS...
SFX Gasp
SFX Huh
YOU'RE VERY STRONG, AREN'T YOU...?
IF ONLY I WERE MORE LIKE THIS GIRL...

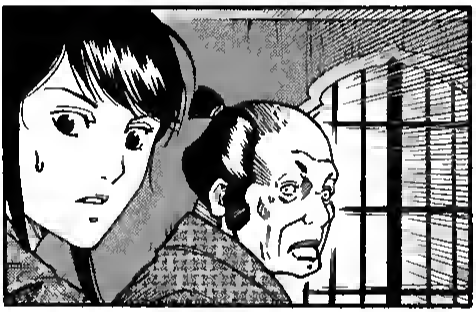
SORRY FOR THE WAIT!
MH!
DELI-CIOUS!
OOH...

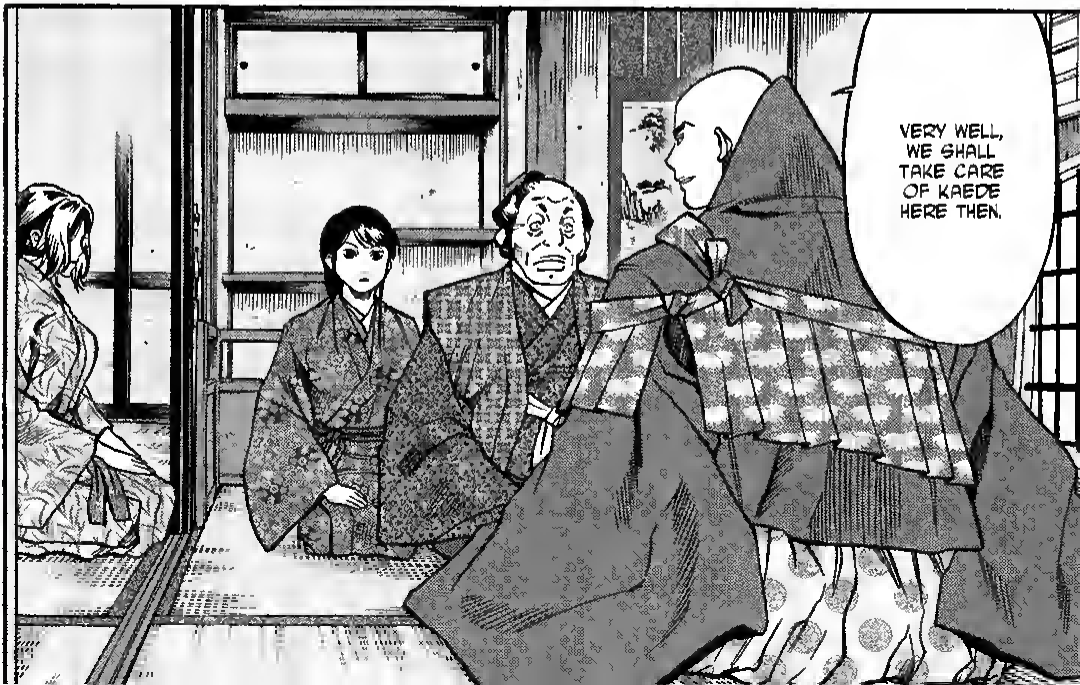
Hmm...
EITHER SHE IS A QUICK STUDY, OR KEN MUST BE REALLY GOOD AT TEACHING.
TO THINK THAT KAEDE COULD MAKE SWEETS THAT ARE THIS GOOD.
OEUFS À LA NEIGE...
Um, I THINK IT WAS... Uh...
YES, SIR...
WHAT IS THIS CALLED?
IT'S A TRADITIONAL RECIPE THAT ONLY REQUIRES EGG WHITES, SUGAR, AND MOUNTAIN BERRIES AS INGREDIENTS.
IT'S A SWEET MADE BY POACHING SUSPENDED MERINGUE IN BOILING WATER...
THEN POURING A SAUCE MADE FROM MOUNTAIN BERRIES ON TOP.


IF THIS GIRL COULD STAY TO LEND A HAND...
I'D BE VERY PLEASED TOO...
Um... KEN-NYO-SAMA...

I SEE...

IT IS RARE FOR YOU TO ASK A FAVOR...

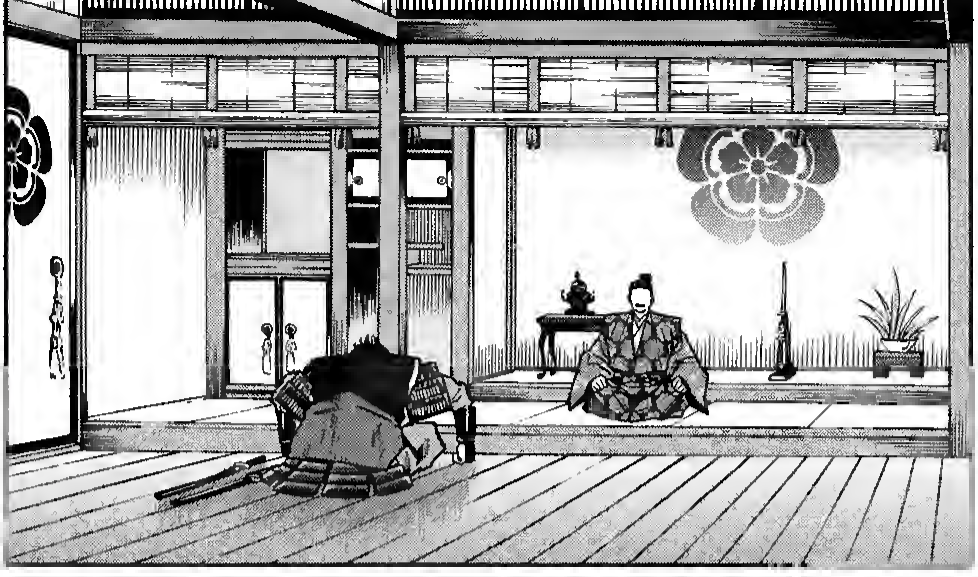


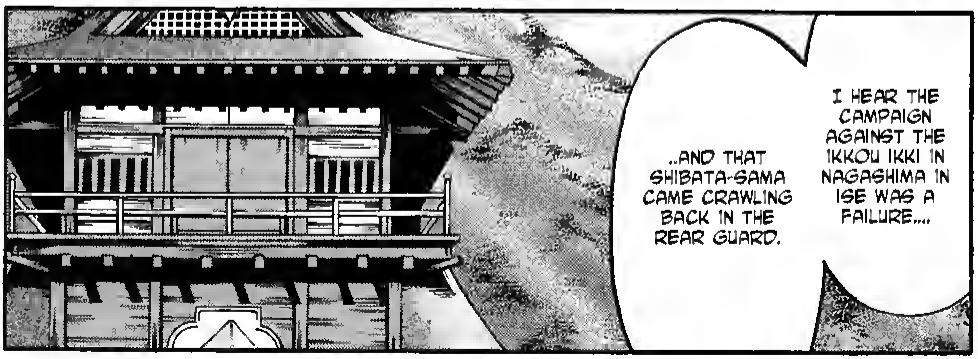

VERY WELL, WE SHALL TAKE CARE OF KAEDE HERE THEN.

YES, SIR.
WONDERFUL! KAEDE, YOU HAD BETTER WORK HARD!
WEL-COME...
...KAE-DE-SAN.
WHOEVER WINS, I SHAN'T TAKE A LOSS...
HEHEHE, THIS WAY, I SHALL CURRY FAVOR WITH BOTH NOBUNAGA AND KENNYO...

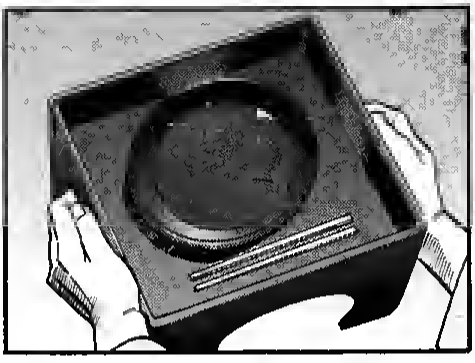
A BLOSSOM, EVEN THOUGH THE INGREDIENTS AND PREPARATION WERE SIMPLE...
IT IS SIMILAR TO THE CONFECTION PREPARED BY THAT MAN...

I HOPE SHE WAS ABLE TO INFILTRATE HONGAN TEMPLE SAFELY.
IT'S BEEN TWO MONTHS SINCE SHE LEFT, BUT I HAVEN'T HEARD OR BEEN ANYTHING OF KAEDE-SAN...
SFX Trot Trot
SFX Trot Trot Trot Trot
OPEN!
OPEN!
SHIBATA-SAMA HAS RETURNED FROM BATTLE!

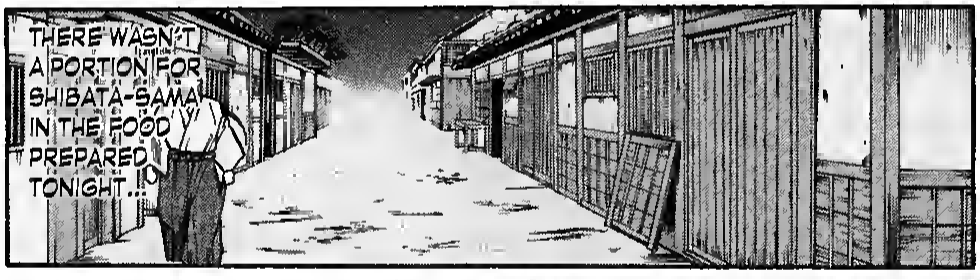



I HEAR THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE IKKOU IKKI IN NAGASHIMA IN ISE WAS A FAILURE....
..AND THAT SHIBATA-SAMA CAME CRAWLING BACK IN THE REAR GUARD.

IT SEEMS HE RECEIVED A THOROUGH TONGUE-LASHING FROM THE LORD...
BUT WHATEVER WENT ON BETWEEN THOSE TWO, THE FACT REMAINS THAT THE SITUATION IS BAD.



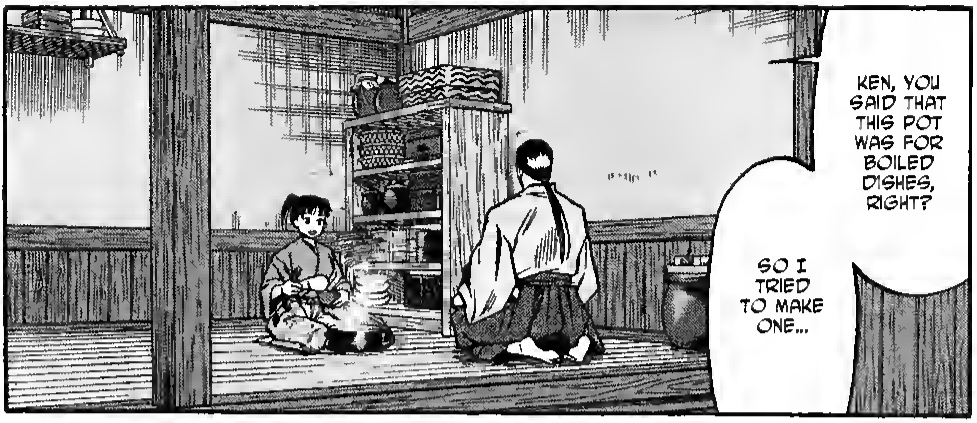
I HEAR HE SUFFERED MANY CASUALTIES DURING THE RETREAT.

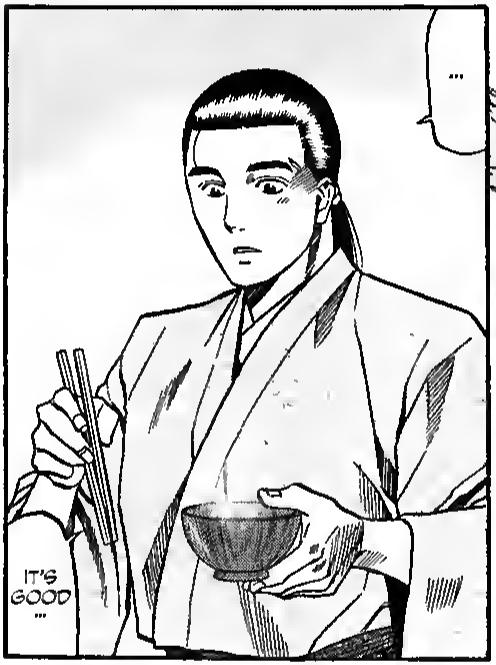

THERE WASN'T A PORTION FOR SHIBATA-SAMA IN THE FOOD PREPARED TONIGHT...!

HE'S SURELY COVERED IN WOUNDS AND COMPLETELY EXHAUSTED.
A LOSING BATTLE...

AN OUTSIDER LIKE ME SHOULDN'T DO ANYTHING UNNECESSARY...
I CAN'T. I WASN'T GIVEN ANY DIRECTIONS FROM NOBUNAGA.
SFX Sigh
I WONDER IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO...
SFX Run
WELCOME BACK!
Ah, KEN!
I FINISHED MAKING THE POT YOU ASKED FOR, SO I BROUGHT IT OVER!
AND...
He He He THERE IS AN EXTRA TOO!

Chapter 57 Shibata and Nobunaga

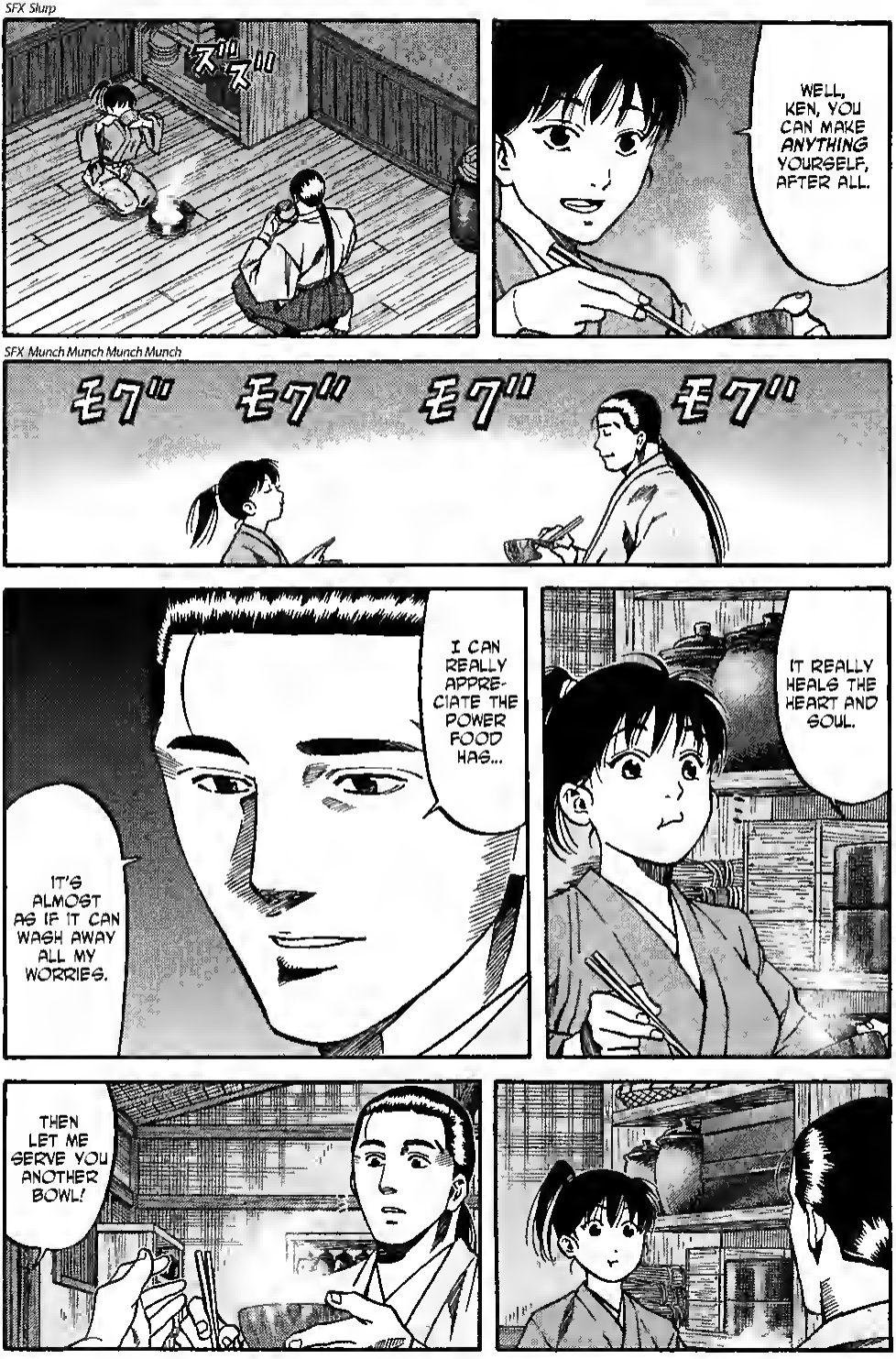

KEN, YOU SAID THAT THIS POT WAS FOR BOILED DISHES, RIGHT?
SO I TRIED TO MAKE ONE...


...
IT'S GOOD ...

A RICE PORRIDGE WITH FLOWER-SHAPED VEGETABLES AND DRIED COD.

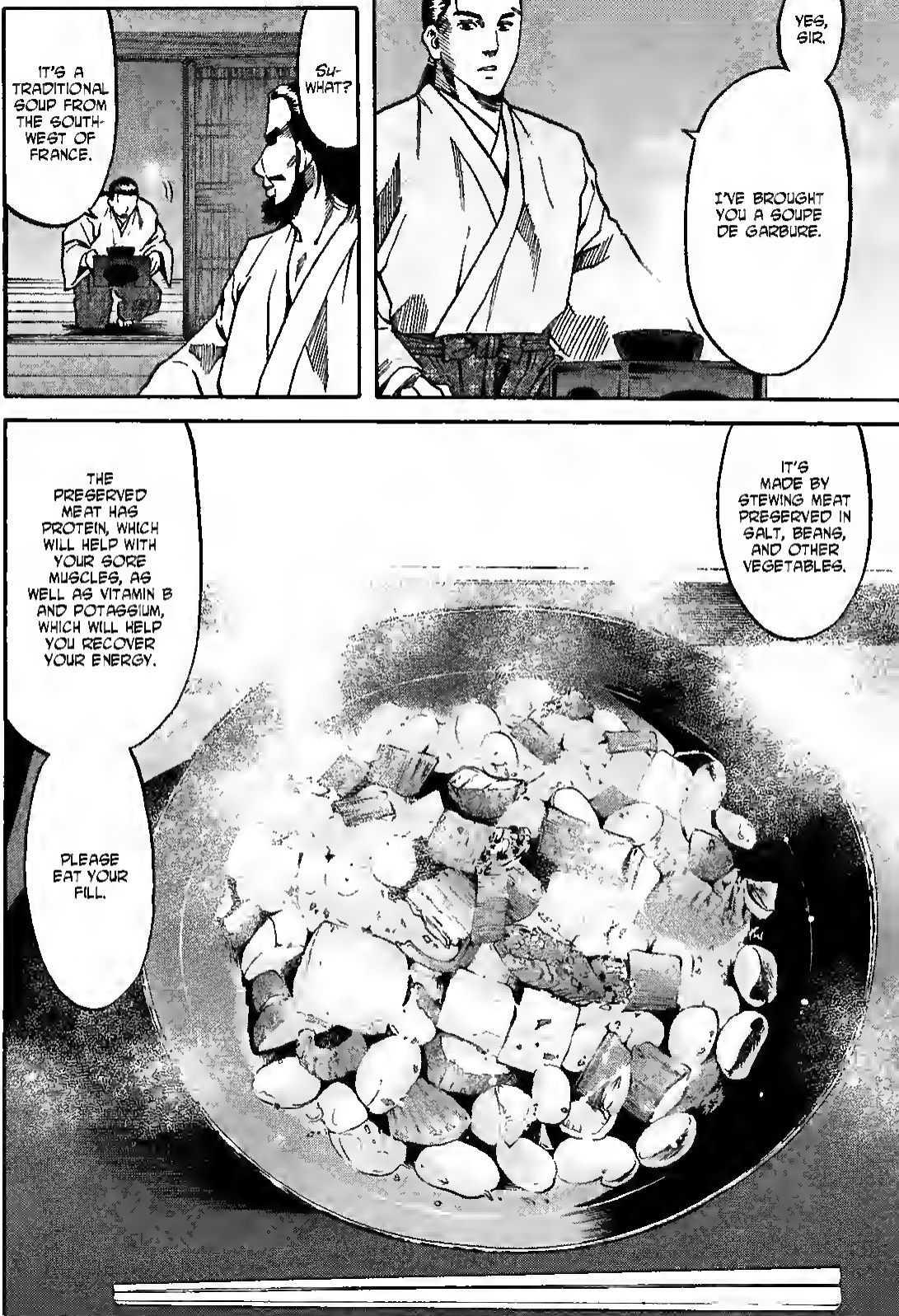
I WONDER HOW LONG IT'S BEEN SINCE I ATE ANOTHER PERSON'S FOOD...
NO, I MEAN IT...

HEY, HEY, DO NOT EXAGG-ERATE.
THIS IS REALLY GOOD!


SFX Slurp
ズズ
WELL, KEN, YOU CAN MAKE ANYTHING YOURSELF, AFTER ALL.
SFX Munch Munch Munch Munch
モグ モグ モグ モグ
I CAN REALLY APPRE-CIATE THE POWER FOOD HAS...
IT'S ALMOST AS IF IT CAN WASH AWAY ALL MY WORRIES.
IT REALLY HEALS THE HEART AND SOUL.
THEN LET ME SERVE YOU ANOTHER BOWL!

YOU SHOULD FOLLOW THE PATH THAT YOU BELIEVE IN.
YEAH.

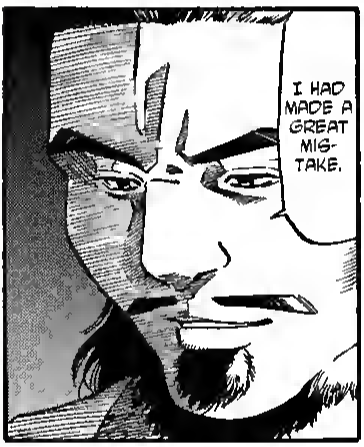
SHI-BATA-SAMA.
THE LORD'S HEAD CHEF IS HERE TO PAY A VISIT.
KEN?
THE LORD'S HEAD CHEF...?

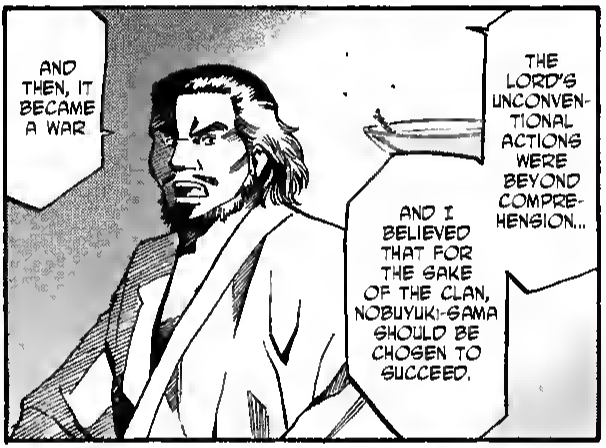

YES, SIR.
I'VE BROUGHT YOU A SOUPE DE GARBURE.
SU- WHAT?
IT'S A TRADITIONAL SOUP FROM THE SOUTH-WEST OF FRANCE.
IT'S MADE BY STEWING MEAT PRESERVED IN SALT, BEANS, AND OTHER VEGETABLES.
THE PRESERVED MEAT HAS PROTEIN, WHICH WILL HELP WITH YOUR SORE MUSCLES, AS WELL AS VITAMIN B AND POTASSIUM, WHICH WILL HELP YOU RECOVER YOUR ENERGY.
PLEASE EAT YOUR FILL.

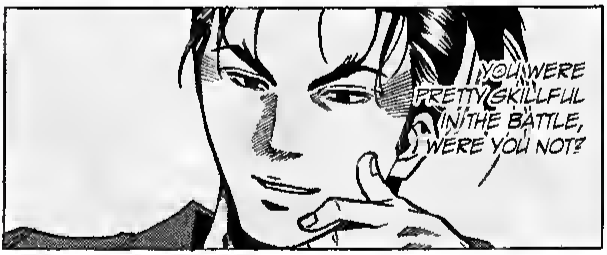
PLEASE EXCUSE ME.
WAIT.
IS THIS FROM THE LORD...?
RECO-VER MY ENER-GY...?
I ACTED ON MY OWN.
NO.
KEN...
PLEASE TREAT THIS AS THOUGH I WERE MERELY TALKING TO MYSELF.

ON THE 16TH OF MAY, THE LORD ORDERED A RETREAT FROM NORTHERN ISE.
HOWEVER I HESITATED AND WAS LATE, BECOMING THE REARGUARD.
THE REAMING I RECEIVED FROM THE LORD WAS ONLY A MATTER OF COURSE.
I WAS TOO EAGER BECAUSE I DESPISE THE IKKOU IKKI.
I HAD WANTED TO ROUT THAT RABBLE AND GAIN GLORY FOR IT.
AS A RESULT... MY DIVISION WAS ROUTED... IN PLACE OF MYSELF, WHO HAD BEEN WOUNDED, UJIIE BAKUZEN TOOK THE REARGUARD, AND HIS RETAINERS WERE SACRIFICED.
THOSE SINS ALL LIE WITH ME.
I WANTED TO MAKE UP FOR THAT TOO.
IN THE PAST... I HAVE POINTED MY BLADE AT THE LORD.

AT THE TIME, I CHOSE TO SUPPORT, NOT THE LORD, BUT NOBUYUKI-SAMA.
AFTER THE LORD'S FATHER, ODA NOBUHIDE-SAMA, PASSED AWAY, THE ELDEST SON OF THE FAMILY, NOBUNAGA-SAMA, AND HIS YOUNGER BROTHER, NOBUYUKI-SAMA, FEUDED OVER THE FAMILY INHERITANCE.


I HAD MADE A GREAT MIS-TAKE.


AND THEN, IT BECAME A WAR
THE LORD'S UNCONVEN-TIONAL ACTIONS WERE BEYOND COMPRE-HENSION...
AND I BELIEVED THAT FOR THE SAKE OF THE CLAN, NOBUYUKI-SAMA SHOULD BE CHOSEN TO SUCCEED.


YOU WERE PRETTY SKILLFUL IN THE BATTLE, WERE YOU NOT?

I BEGGED NOBUNAGA FOR MY LIFE.

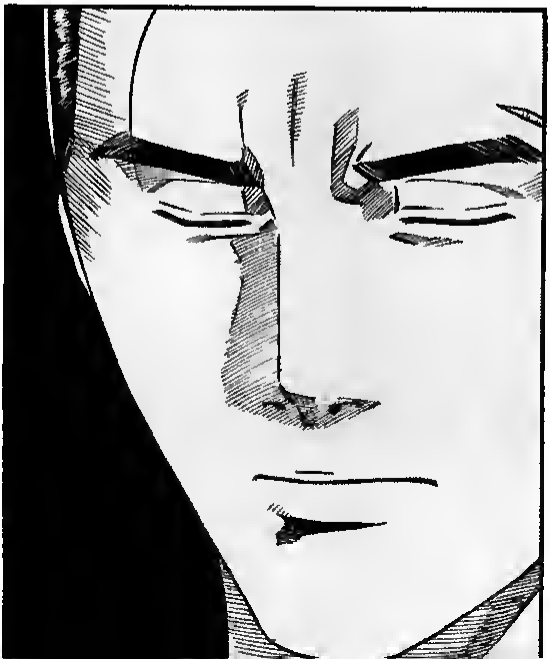
YOU SHALL FIGHT BRAVELY FOR ME FROM NOW ON.

...IS THERE ANY ONE AMONG YOU WHO CAN SAY WITH COMPLETE CONFIDENCE THAT HE WOULD NEVER BETRAY ME?
IN THIS WORLD OF WAR AND CHAOS...
'TIS TO THIS MAN THAT I SHOULD REALLY OFFER MY LIFE AND SERVICE...
THIS IS WHAT I THOUGHT
OR...
THAT IS WHAT I THINK
HE WOULD NOT BLAME US FOR HAVING FOUGHT AGAINST HIM...
THOSE WORDS WERE DIRECTED TOWARDS WE, WHO HAD COME TO THE LORD'S SIDE DESPITE PASSED DIFFERENCES AND BETRAYALS...
THAT IS WHAT HE WAS TELLING US!
I STILL CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE LORD.
BUT SOME-TIMES...

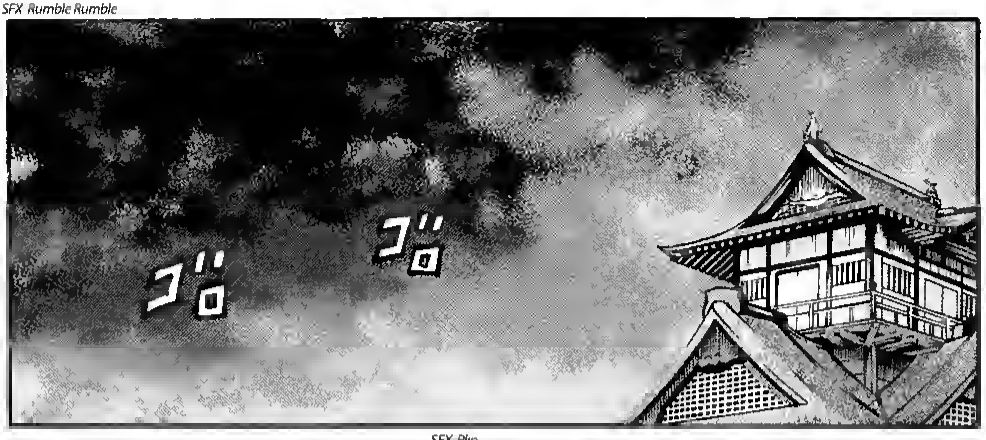
HA HA HA
AT TIMES LIKE THAT, WE RETAINERS OFTEN HAD SAKE WITH EACH OTHER.
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, THERE IS NARY A LORD AS AT EASE AS OURS.
YOU NEEDN'T BE SO CONFUSED. IT IS FINE AS LONG AS WE TRUST IN OUR LORD AND FOLLOW HIM.
'TIS A STRANGE THING...
JUST BY HEARING THOSE WORDS FROM SUCH A MAN, IT MADE YOU THINK THAT MAYBE THAT IS TRULY THE CASE.

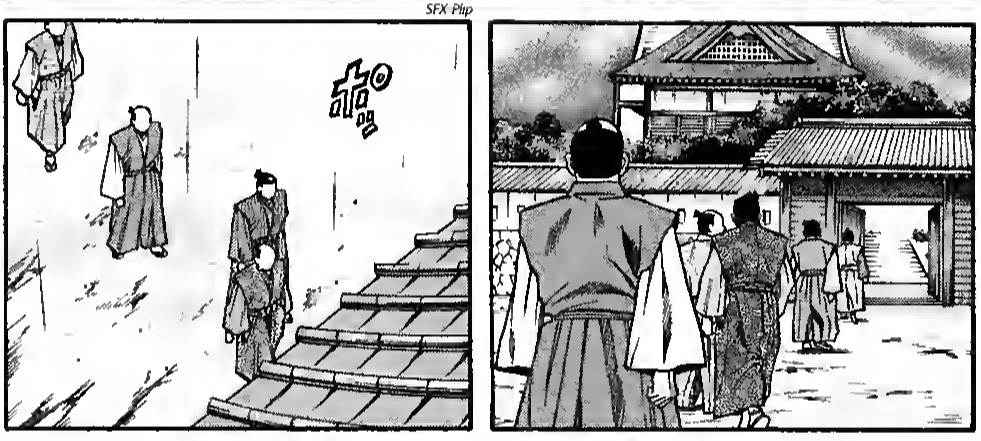
BUT NOW...
...THERE IS NO ONE HERE WHO CAN LAUGH AWAY THE PROBLEMS I AM FACING...

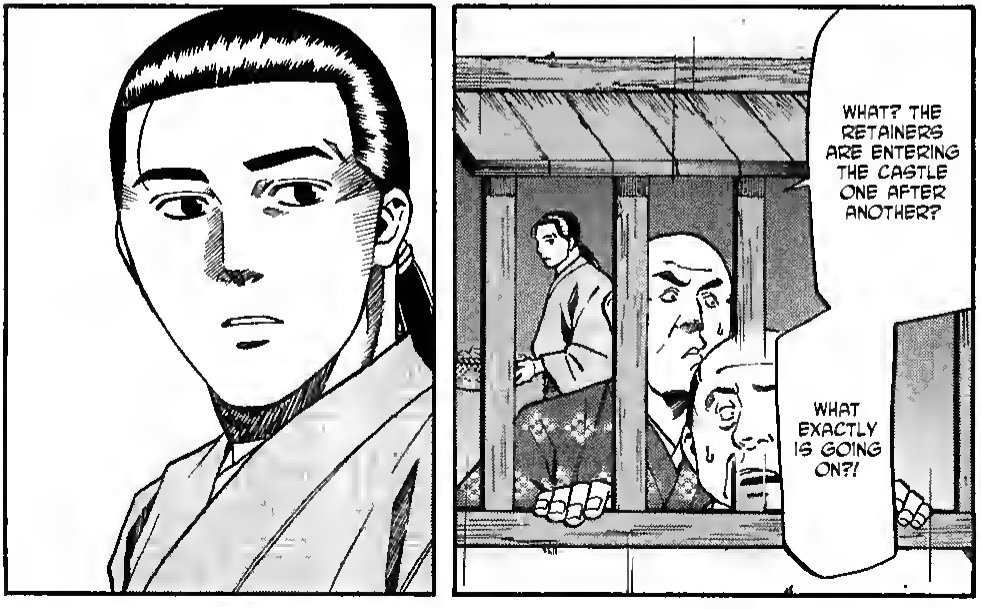
SFX Bow



...I CAN HEAR SOMETHING CREAKING...
IT'S AS THOUGH...

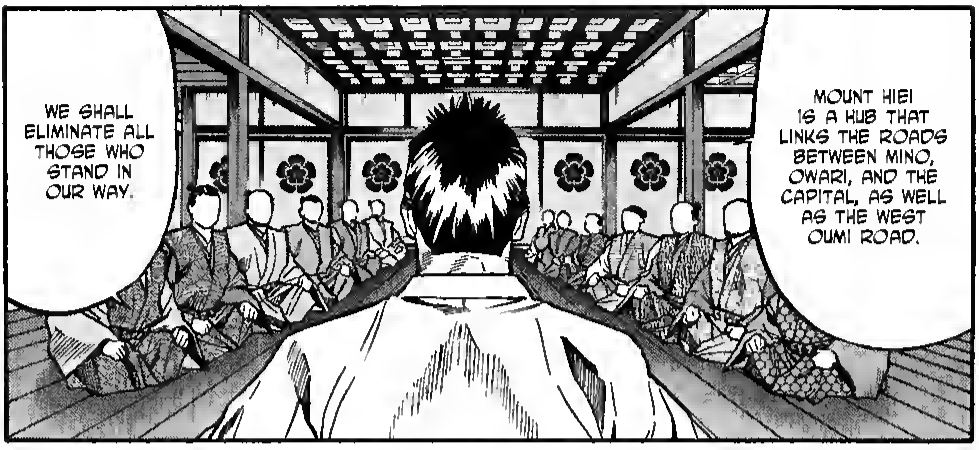

SFX: Rumble Rumble
ゴゴ
ゴゴ


SFX: Plip


WHAT? THE RETAINERS ARE ENTERING THE CASTLE ONE AFTER ANOTHER?
WHAT EXACTLY IS GOING ON?!

SFX Shaaaaa
SFX Shaaaaaaa
MY...
MY LORD...
WHAT... DID YOU JUST SAY...?

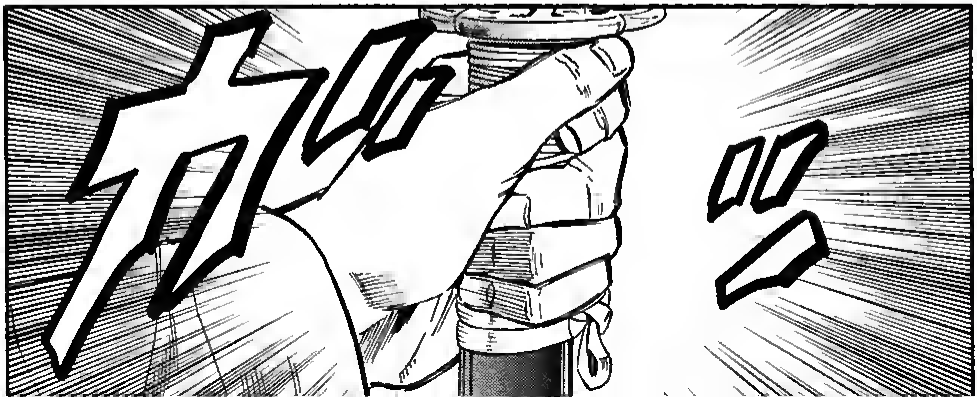
...MOUNT HIEI.
WE SHALL BURN DOWN...
SFX Shaaaaaa


WE SHALL ELIMINATE ALL THOSE WHO STAND IN OUR WAY.
MOUNT HIEI IS A HUB THAT LINKS THE ROADS BETWEEN MINO, OWARI, AND THE CAPITAL, AS WELL AS THE WEST OUMI ROAD.

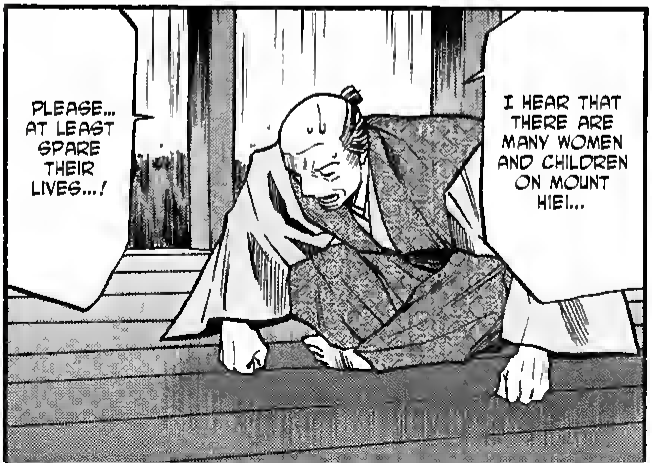
PLEASE WAIT!
WE WOULD BE GOING AGAINST THE GODS AND BUDDHAS THEM-SELVES ---!
PLEASE RECON-SIDER!

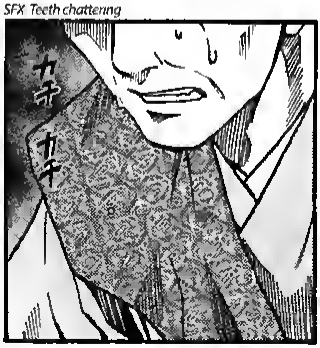
P-PLEASE RECON-SIDER!
MOUNT HIEI IS THE HOLY MOUNTAIN THAT PRO-TECTS THE CAPITAL.
SINCE ANCIENT TIMES, IT HAS BEEN A PLACE EVEN THE EMPERORS CANNOT TOUCH!

SFX: Grab



TELL ME...
WHO KILLED HIM?
THE AZAI-ASAKURA ARMY... THE IKKOU IKKI...
AND THE WARRIOR MONKS FROM MOUNT HIEI'S ENRYAKU TEMPLE.
WHO KILLED YOSHI-NARI?!
IF YOU CALL THAT ILK GODS AND BUD-DHAS...
THEN THE GODS AND BUDDHAS ARE MY ENEMIES.


I HEAR THAT THERE ARE MANY WOMEN AND CHILDREN ON MOUNT HIEI...
PLEASE... AT LEAST SPARE THEIR LIVES...!


SFX Teeth chattering
カチ
カチ

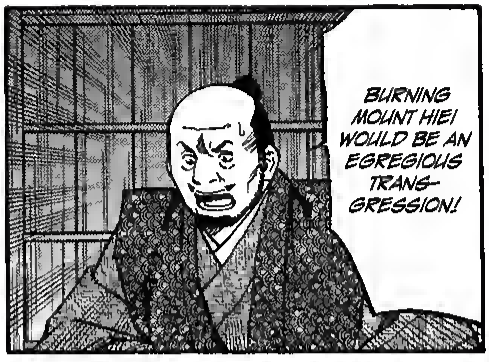
!!
MY LORD ...!
THOSE TYPE OF PEOPLE SHOULD NOT EXIST.
CARNAL DESIRES ARE FORBIDDEN AT THE ENRYAKU TEMPLE.
LOOKS LIKE A STORM IS BREWING...
SFX Crack
SFX Boom
Whoa!
...BECAUSE I WILL NOT REPEAT MYSELF.
LISTEN...

REDUCE MOUNT HIEI...
...TO ASHES.

Chapter 58 Trembling

WELL THEN, TO WHOM SHOULD I SELL THIS INFORMATION?
THE SHOGUN PERHAPS? OR THE HONNOU-TEMPLE? TAKEDA...? OR I COULD EVEN INFORM THOSE IN QUESTION, THE ENRYAKU TEMPLE.
HE HAS COME UP WITH YET ANOTHER MOVE THAT DEFIES ANYONE'S EXPECTATIONS.
MOUNT HIEI SHALL BE BURNED, EH?
OOF, UP WE GO.
NO, NO, WAIT A MOMENT...
I MUST FIGURE OUT HOW THIS INFORMATION IS *MOST* VALUABLE FIRST.
VERY WELL.
I BELIEVE IT SHALL TAKE SOME TIME TO ACCOMPLISH THIS.
IF I MAY MENTION, THE ENRYAKU TEMPLE IS PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO INFILTRATE...
YES, SIR...
GO AND FIND OUT MORE AT MOUNT HIEI.

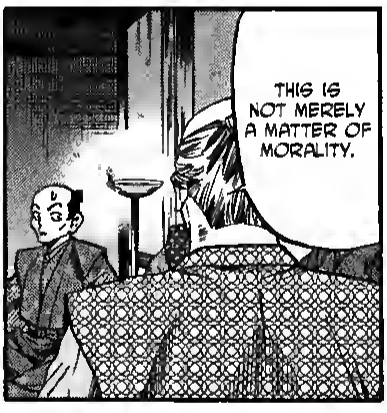
Huh..?
THIS IS CERTAINLY AN INTERESTING TURN OF EVENTS.
YOU SEND SHIVERS DOWN THIS OLD MAN'S SPINE.
NOT ONLY PLANS TO DESIGN A CASTLE, BUT A BURNING THIS TIME TOO.
I DOUBT YOUR VASSALS WILL BE VERY UNDERSTANDING OF YOU THOUGH.

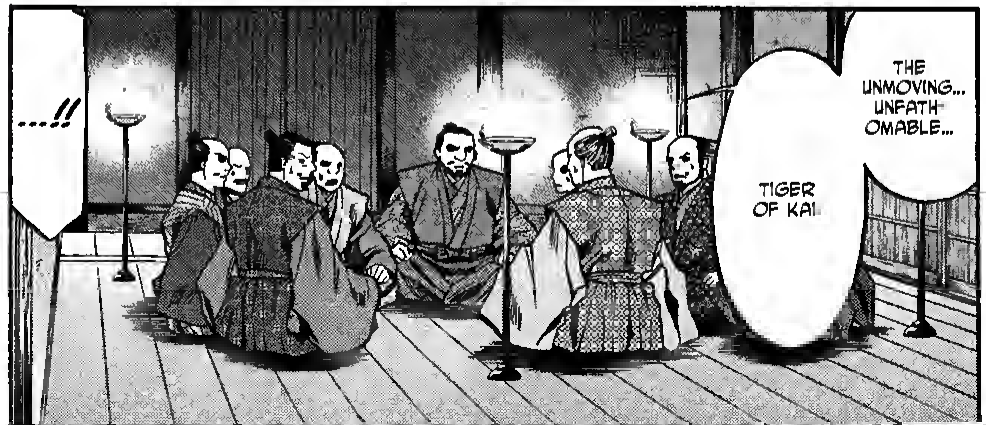

BURNING MOUNT HIEI WOULD BE AN EGREGIOUS TRANS-GRESSION!

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS?

MOREOVER, FOR HIM TO TELL US TO MASSACRE THE WOMEN AND CHILD-REN THERE TOO.
IS THIS NOT ALMOST AKIN TO THE WORK OF A DEVIL?

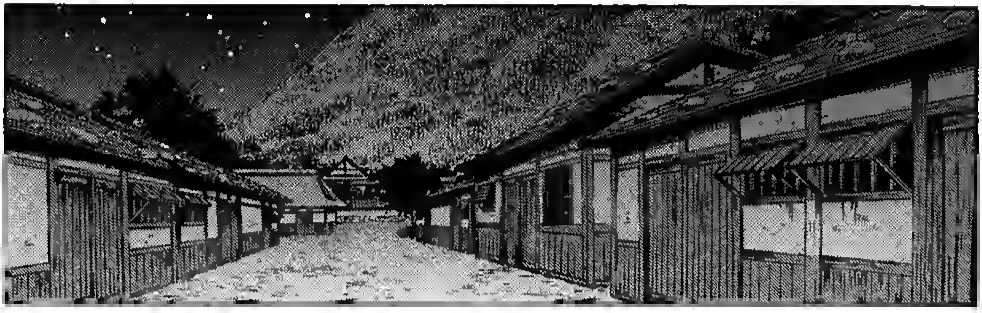
IF WE DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
...THEN WE RISK STEPPING ON THE TAIL OF THE TIGER THAT WAS BLESSEDLY SLEEPING.

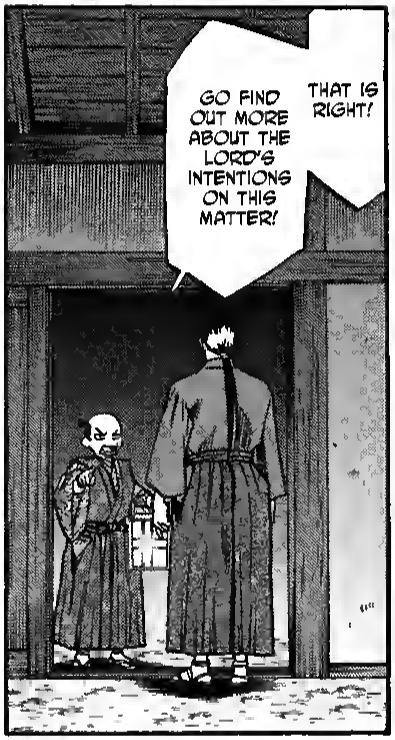

THIS IS NOT MERELY A MATTER OF MORALITY.

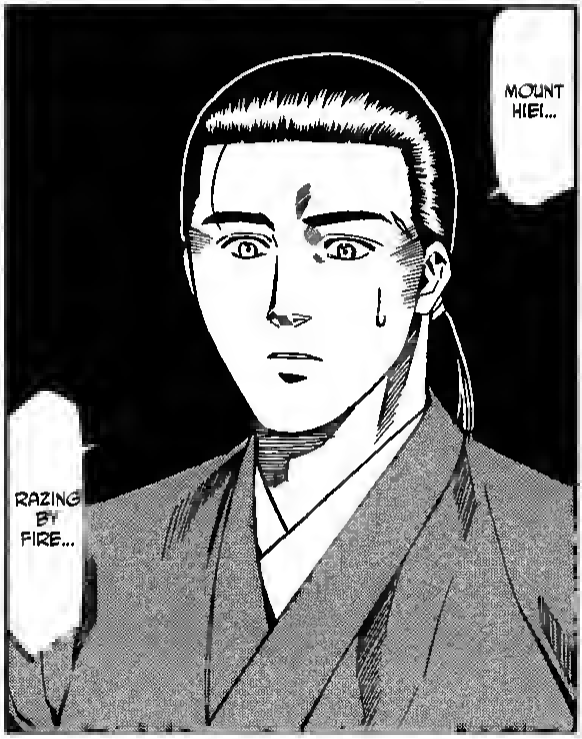

...!!
THE UNMOVING... UNPATH- OMABLE...
TIGER OF KAI

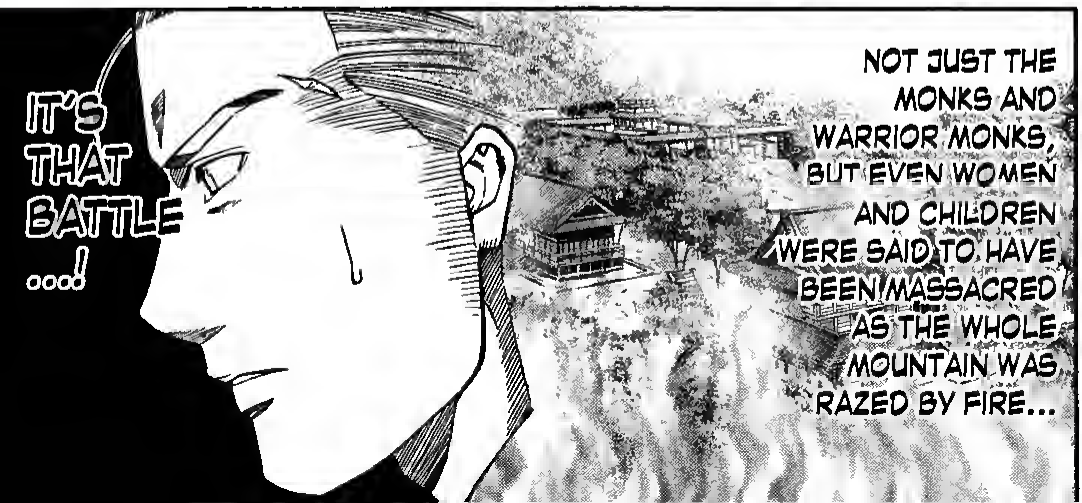
WHAT...
...IN THE WORLD IS OUR LORD THINKING...?!
IS THIS ALRIGHT...?!
IS IT TRULY ALRIGHT...
...TO CONTINUE FOLLOWING THIS MAN...?!
I...
...WISH TO UNDERSTAND OUR LORD'S TRUE INTENTIONS.

WHAT ARE YOU SUGGESTING, SHIBATA-DONO?! HE IS A MERE CHEF!
Huh...? ASK KEN ABOUT THE LORD'S INTENTIONS ...?
MOREOVER, HE WILL REALIZE THAT WE ARE ANXIOUS ABOUT THIS.
WOULD EVERYONE AGREE TO HAVING KEN INQUIRE FURTHER INTO THIS MATTER?
KEN PREPARES THE LORD'S MEALS EVERY DAY...
IN A WAY, HE IS THE CLOSEST MAN TO THE LORD.
NO, I THINK IT IS A GREAT IDEA.
SFX: Clop
HE HAS ABSOLUTELY NO DIGNITY AS A SAMURAI.
THIS IS WHY ELEVATING COMMONERS IS SO...
AH... KINO-SHITA-DONO...
PLEASE LEAVE IT TO ME!
I WILL GO TELL KEN ABOUT THIS RIGHT AWAY.




GO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE LORD'S INTENTIONS ON THIS MATTER!
THAT IS RIGHT!


MOUNT HIEI...
RAZING BY FIRE...


IT'S THAT BATTLE ...!
NOT JUST THE MONKS AND WARRIOR MONKS, BUT EVEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN MASSACRED AS THE WHOLE MOUNTAIN WAS RAZED BY FIRE...

THE MAN I PROFESSED MY LOYALTY TO SHOULD NOT BE SUCH A HEARTLESS AND COLD MAN.
NO MATTER IF HE SAYS THIS IS A WAR TO AVENGE MORI-DONO...
IT STILL MAKES NO SENSE THAT HE WOULD TELL US--"THOSE TYPE OF PEOPLE SHOULD NOT EXIST, BURN EVERYTHING..."
WE ARE, QUITE HONESTLY, AT A LOSS.
THAT'S ...
TRUE.
...IS DIFFERENT FROM THE MAN OF THE HISTORY BOOKS.
THE NOBUNAGA I'VE SEEN HERE...

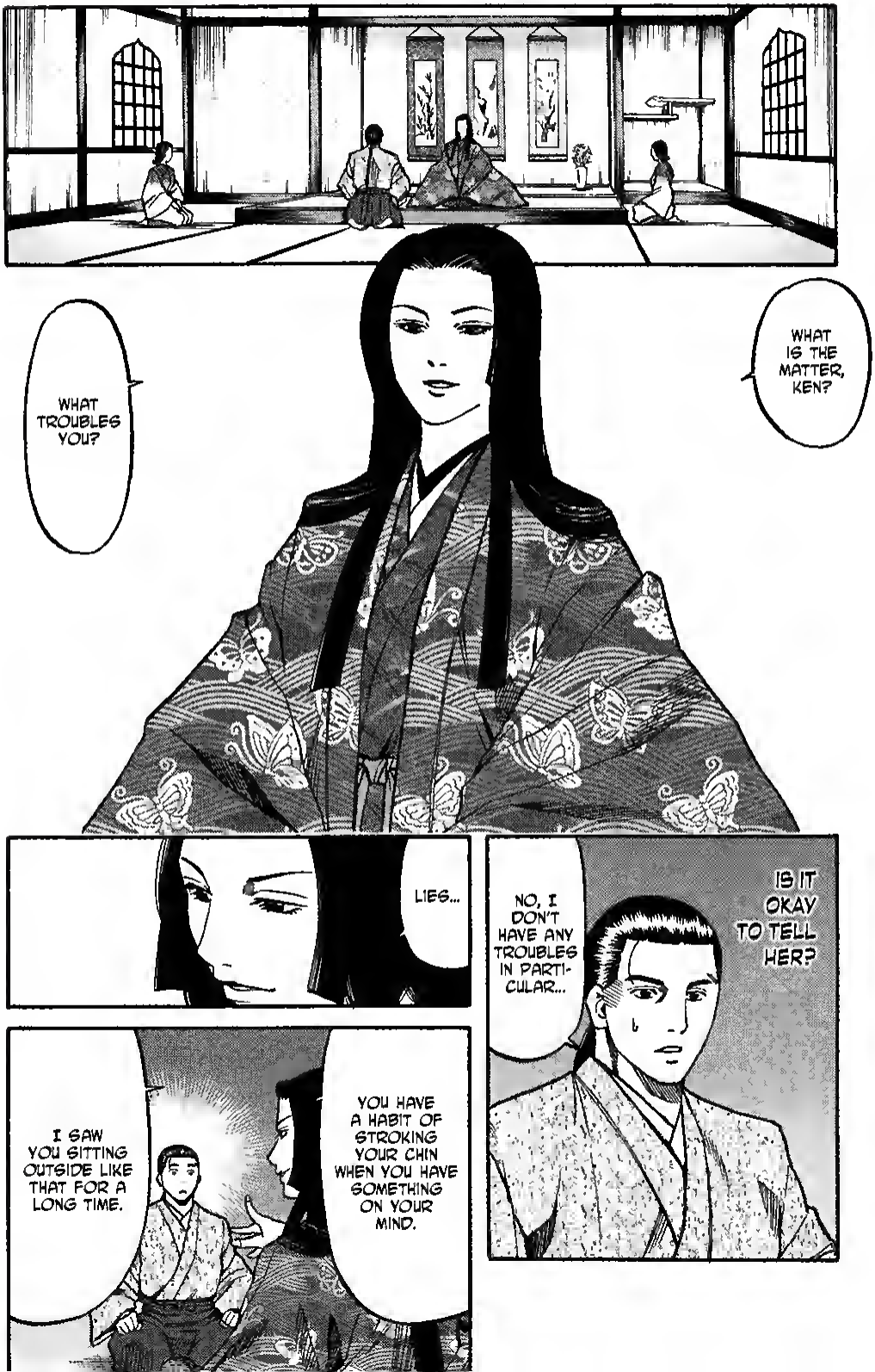
Ooh! GOOD MAN!
I'LL LEND YOU MY FULL COOP-ERATION-- JUST LET ME KNOW WHATEVER YOU NEED.
ALRIGHT, I'LL DO IT.
TEM-PLE...
VEGE-TARIAN COOK-ING?
NO GOOD EITHER-- IT'S TOO SIMPLE.
HOW ABOUT SOME-THING WITH EGGS?
NO, IT'S ABOUT THE MOTHERS AND CHILDREN...

I CAN'T THINK ABOUT THIS ANYMORE TODAY, I HAVE TO PREPARE THE LORD'S MEAL NOW.
OH NO! THE SUN'S ALREADY SO HIGH...

I HAVE TO THINK FOR MYSELF NOW.
KEN!
WHAT IS WRONG? YOU LOOK GLOOMY?
KEN...

SFX Doki

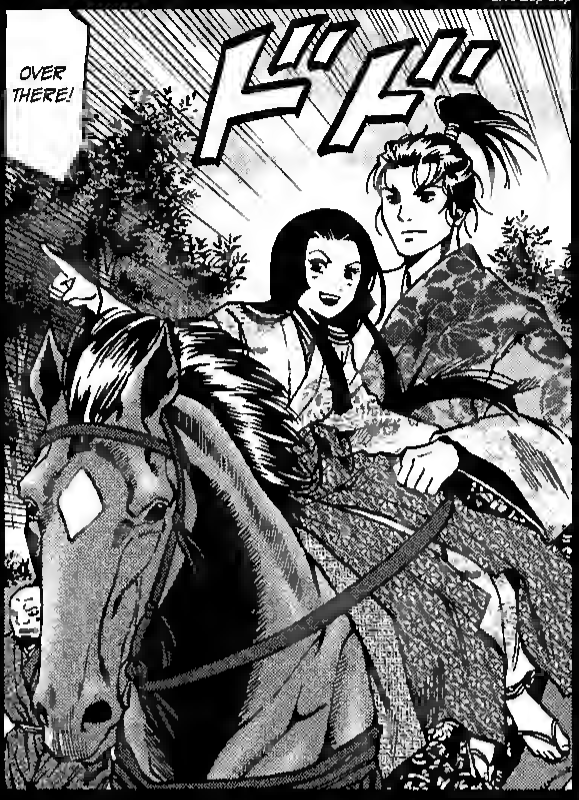
NOU-HIME-SAMA SUMMONS YOU.


WHAT IS THE MATTER, KEN?
WHAT TROUBLES YOU?
IS IT OKAY TO TELL HER?
NO, I DON'T HAVE ANY TROUBLES IN PARTI-CULAR...
LIES...
YOU HAVE A HABIT OF STROKING YOUR CHIN WHEN YOU HAVE SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND.
I SAW YOU SITTING OUTSIDE LIKE THAT FOR A LONG TIME.

WELL...
SHE'S TRULY A FORMIDABLE PERSON...
...!
Hmm...
THE REAL PROBLEM IS THAT THESE VASSALS ARE HESITANT TO FOLLOW THE LORD'S COMMANDS.
IS THERE NEED FOR A MAN WHO FALLS IN LOVE TO KNOW EVERY DETAIL OF HIS PARTNER'S HEART?
HOW PETTY.

...FOR THE SAKE OF MY LORD...
...I WOULD OPEN UP THE GATES OF HELL.
WERE IT ME...
BUT THERE IS NO POINT IN TELLING YOU ALL THIS.
...
SO THE LORD SAID NOT TO SPARE EVEN THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN, hmm...
THERE WAS A TIME WE WENT INTO THE MOUNTAINS TO LOOK FOR ROYAL FERN.
WHEN I WAS JUST NEWLY MARRIED INTO THE ODA CLAN...
COME TO THINK OF IT...

SFX. Clop Clop

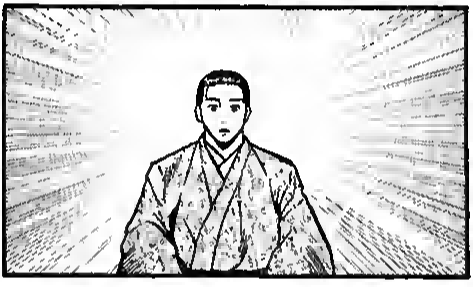


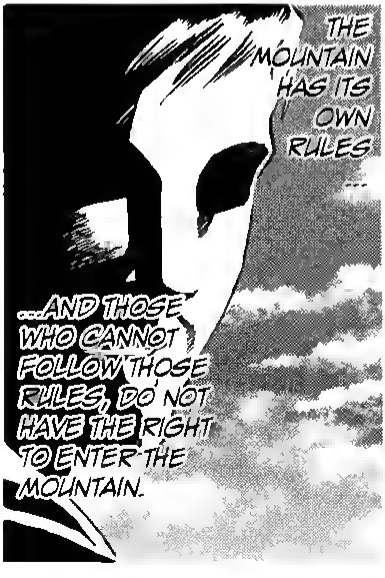
SFX. Phew

SFX. Buu

Kichou. Another of Nou-hime's names.

...BEASTS ...ARE THOSE WHO TAKE ALL...

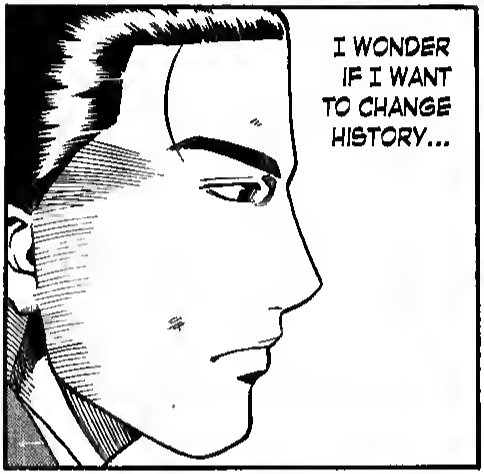


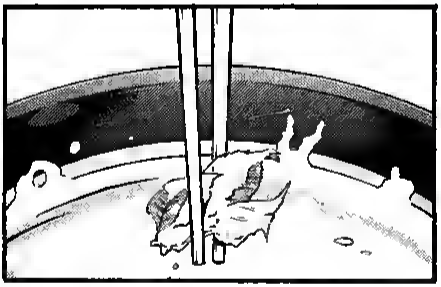


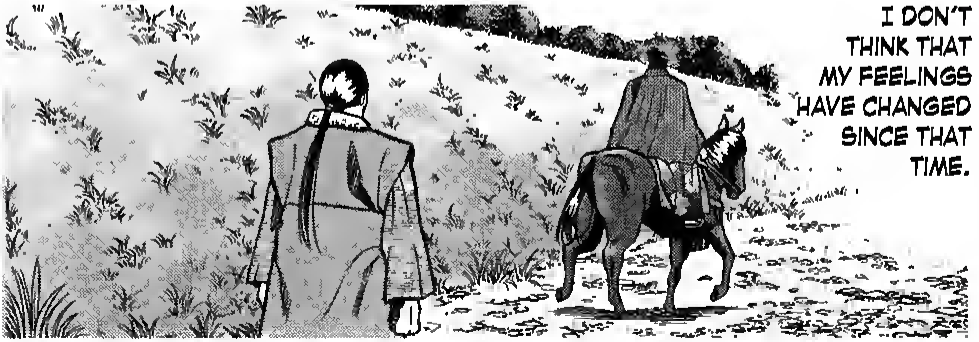
SFX: Gasp
Ah, I'M FINE.
ARE YOU UNWELL?
...N
KEN?
THAT MAKES THIS EASIER THEN...
IS THAT RIGHT?
IT'S JUST... THAT I HAVE THE FEELING SOMEONE HAS SAID THOSE WORDS TO ME BEFORE...
SFX: Swip
...!
I SEE...!
...IF HE STILL BELIEVES THAT.
JUST ASK THE LORD...

FOR WHAT?
IF YOU EVER NEED ANYTHING, JUST COME TO ME.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MY LADY!
WHAT ...?
I MEAN... BUT... WHY...?
IS IT NOT OBVIOUS?
IT WILL RELIEVE THE BOREDOM.

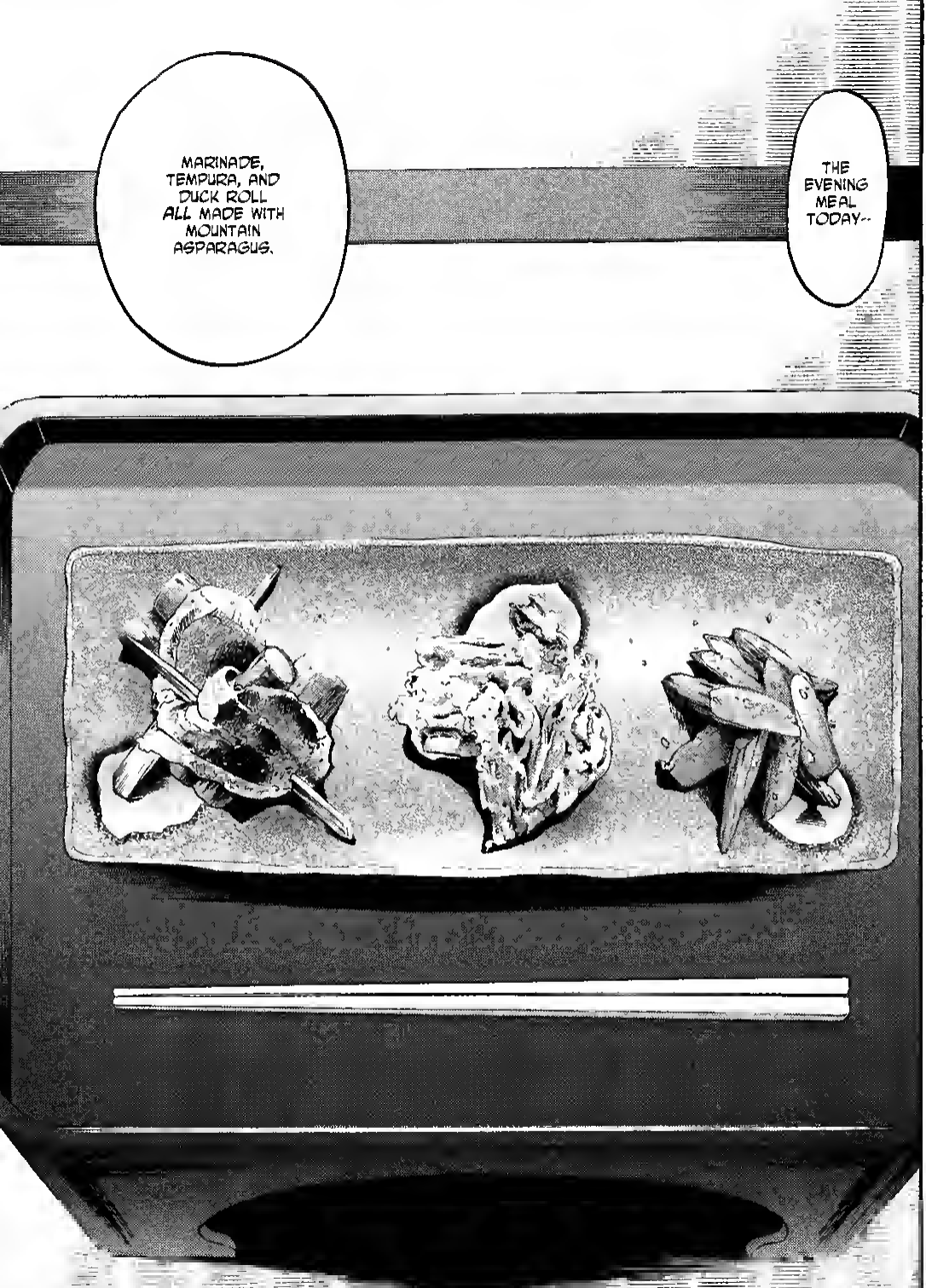
SFX. Yank Yank







MY LORD, I HAVE BROUGHT YOU YOUR MEAL.
ENTER ...
EVEN IF A CRUEL TRUTH AWAITS ...
EXCUSE ME.
...I WANT TO BELIEVE IN YOU.

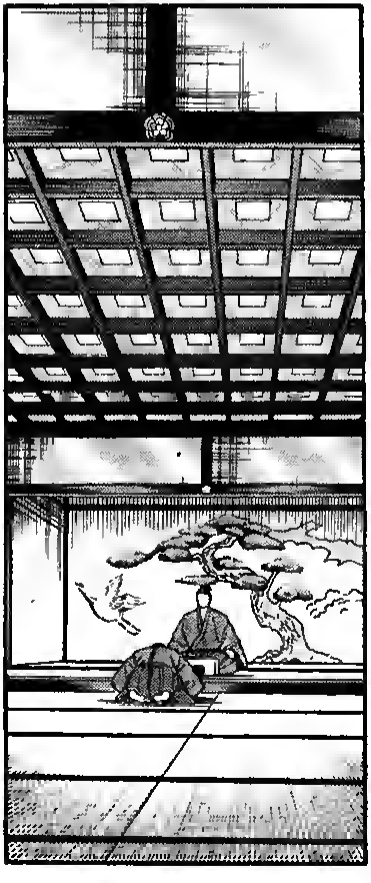


Chapter 59 Rule from the Future

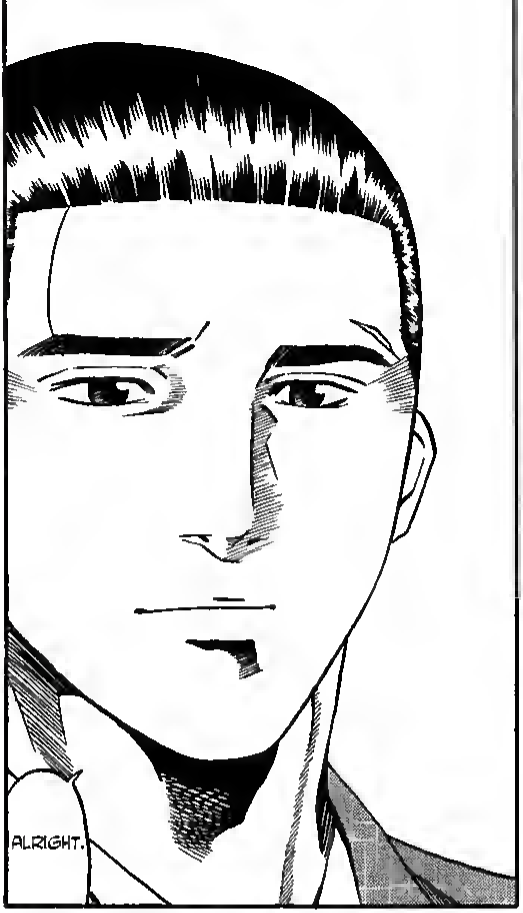
Mmph
NOU-HIME-SAMA TOLD ME ABOUT THE ROYAL FERN, BUT SINCE IT'S NOT IN SEASON RIGHT NOW...
I USED MOUNTAIN ASPARAGUS AS A SUB-STITUTE.
THAT'S BECAUSE I'D LIKE TO REVEAL MY LORD'S INTENTIONS TO YOUR VASSALS BEFORE THE DEPARTURE TO MOUNT HIEI.
I ASK FOR YOUR PERMISSION.
WHAT IS THIS...?

MY LORD...
I HEARD A STORY FROM NOU-HIME-SAMA...
...ABOUT THE RULE OF THE MOUNTAINS... AND THAT THIS WAS IN LINE WITH MY LORD'S INTENTIONS.
TO BLINDLY TRUST AND FOLLOW...
...A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF EMOTIONAL STRENGTH IS REQUIRED.
UP UNTIL NOW, EVEN THOUGH THEY MAY HAVE HAD DOUBTS ABOUT YOUR WORDS...
...THOSE MEN PUT THEM ASIDE AND SUPPORTED YOU.
BUT NOW... ALL OF YOUR VASSALS HAVE LOST AN IMPORTANT PILLAR OF STRENGTH...!

PLEASE!
ALLOW ME TO COMMUNICATE YOUR INTENTIONS!

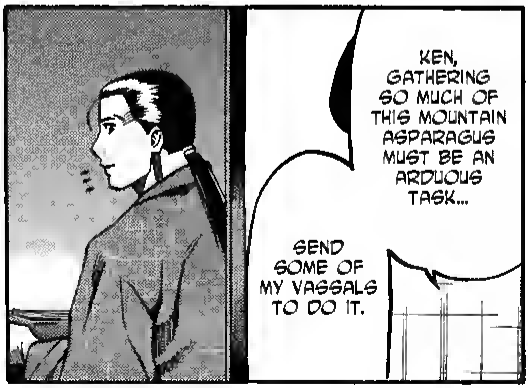


SFX Flinch
PILLAR ...
SO I RELIED OVERLY MUCH ON YOSHINARI, ONCE AGAIN.
Foo
SFX Crunch Crunch Chew Chew
SFX Lift
KEN...


ALRIGHT.

THIS IS GOOD.

MAKE SURE SARU GOES TOO.

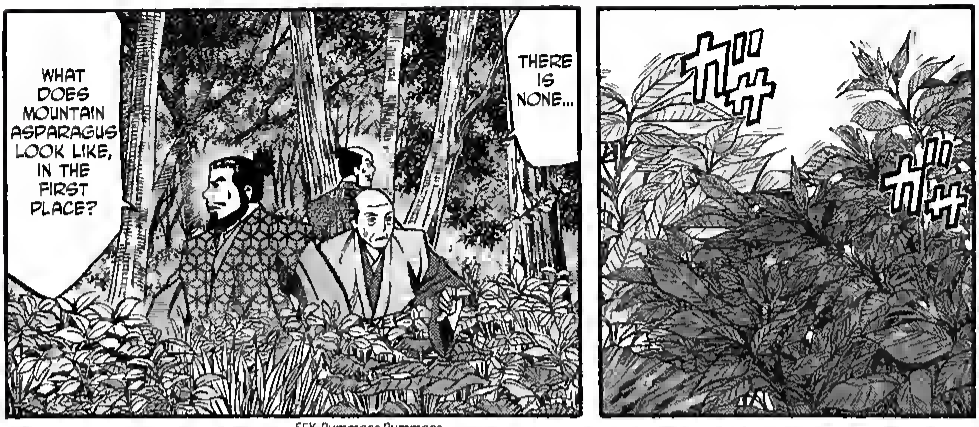

KEN, GATHERING SO MUCH OF THIS MOUNTAIN ASPARAGUS MUST BE AN ARDUOUS TASK...
SEND SOME OF MY VASSALS TO DO IT.

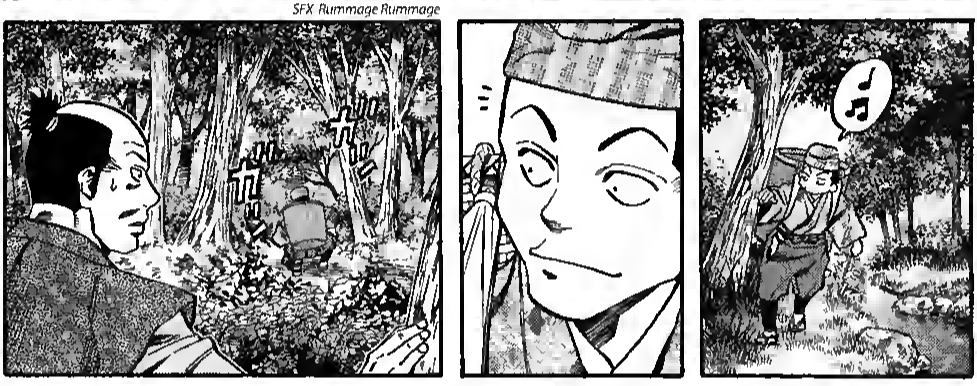
Whoa, HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN SINCE I WENT FORAGING IN THE MOUNTAINS?

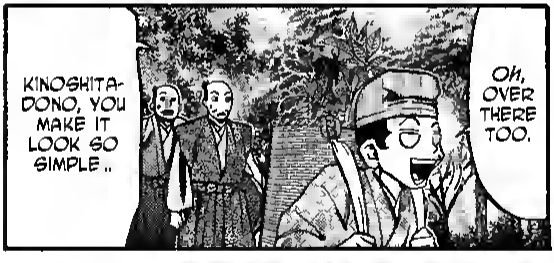
LISTEN.. YOU WILL ALL STAY BEHIND...
PLEASE LEAVE THIS WORK TO US SERVANTS ...
Y-YES, TO THINK THAT YOU SAMURAI-SAMA ARE CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN...

WHY ARE SAMURAI LIKE US SENT TO DO THIS TYPE OF WORK...?

...ON THE LORD'S ORDERS.


WHAT DOES MOUNTAIN ASPARAGUS LOOK LIKE, IN THE FIRST PLACE?
THERE IS NONE...
SFX Rustle Rustle


SFX Rummage Rummage


KINOSHITA-DONO, YOU MAKE IT LOOK SO SIMPLE..
Oh, OVER THERE TOO.

FOR A FARMER, EVEN A BABY CAN MANAGE SIMPLE MOUNTAIN FORAGING.
IT IS JUST COMMON SENSE.
I AM A SAMURAI FROM THE FARMING CLASS, AFTER ALL.

I FOUND IT!

SFX Irate
COME ON, PLEASE ALLOW THESE WORTHLESS SAMURAI TO TAKE THE OH-SO-GREAT PEASANTS' PLACE.
I SEE A CLUMP GROWING OVER HERE.
SFX Yank Yank
HEY, WAIT...
LET ME PULL THIS ONE UP, ROOT AND ALL.
THAT GOES AGAINST THE RULE OF THE MOUNTAINS!
YOU CANNOT DO THAT!
PRECISELY BECAUSE WE FORAGE, WE CANNOT TAKE EVERY-THING.
YOU MUST LEAVE AT LEAST ONE OF EVERYTHING BEHIND.

...AND WE MAY PAVE THE WAY TO THE FUTURE!
SO THAT NEXT YEAR, THE SEEDS SPREAD...
NO, ABOUT HOW LEAVING BEHIND LEADS TO THE FUTURE...
HUH? WELL, THE RULE OF THE MOUNTAINS...
KINOSHITA-DONO ...
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY...?
IS THAT... THE LORD'S TRUE INTENTION ...?!

IF THEY DO NOT EXIST, THEN THERE IS NO WAY TO KILL THEM...
WOMEN AND CHILDREN SHOULD 'NOT' EXIST.

JUST AS, WITHOUT INGREDIENTS, WE CAN'T COOK.
YES...
WE MUST LEAVE SOME BEHIND, OR ELSE IT'S PROBLEMATIC.

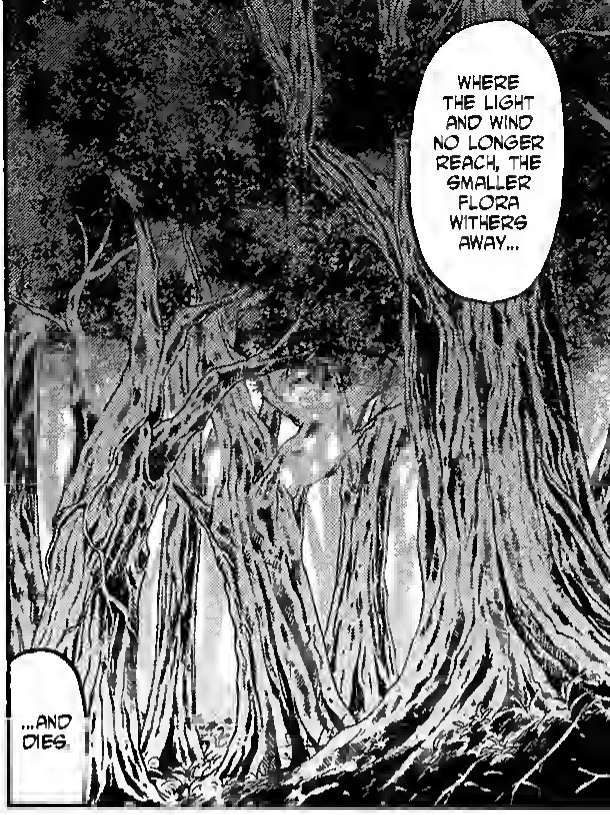
IN OTHER WORDS, THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE LIVES THAT SHOULD BE SPARED.

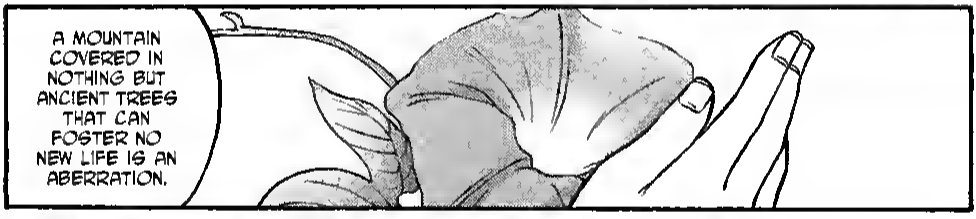
THE TREES CAN GROW SO BIG THAT LIGHT AND WIND CAN NO LONGER PENETRATE THEM.
WHAT?

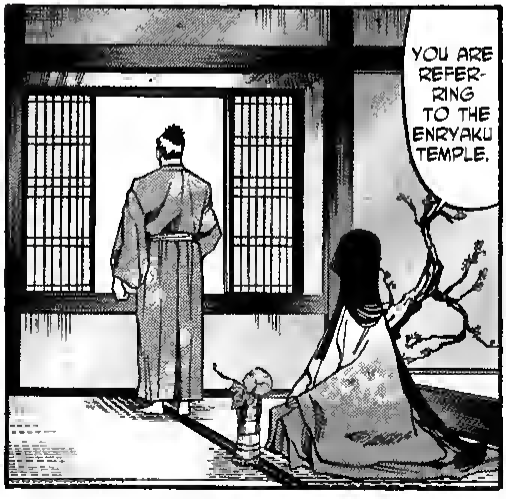
I'VE ALSO HEARD OF A LEGEND WHERE THE MOUNTAINS DIE...

...AND ROOTS CAN NO LONGER LODGE IN THE EXPOSED ROCK FACE.
THEN THE EARTH, WHICH WAS HELD IN PLACE BY THE FLORA ERODES...

...WITH NOTHING BUT OLD TREES.
AND IT BECOMES A MOUNTAIN...


WHERE THE LIGHT AND WIND NO LONGER REACH, THE SMALLER FLORA WITHERS AWAY...
...AND DIES.


A MOUNTAIN COVERED IN NOTHING BUT ANCIENT TREES THAT CAN FOSTER NO NEW LIFE IS AN ABERRATION.


YOU ARE REFERRING TO THE ENRYAKU TEMPLE.

ANCIENT TREES...
THEY SOUND A LOT LIKE THE ANTIQUATED LAWS AND CUSTOMS THAT YOU OFTEN TALK ABOUT.

THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT MUST BE BURNT TO THE GROUND.
SFX Crackle Crackle
SFX Crack
IN THE SCORCHED EARTH WHERE NOTHING SEEMS TO REMAIN...
THERE SHALL ALWAYS BE...
...NEW LIFE STRIVING TO GROW.

THE WIND WILL BLOW AGAIN...
IN THOSE PLACES...

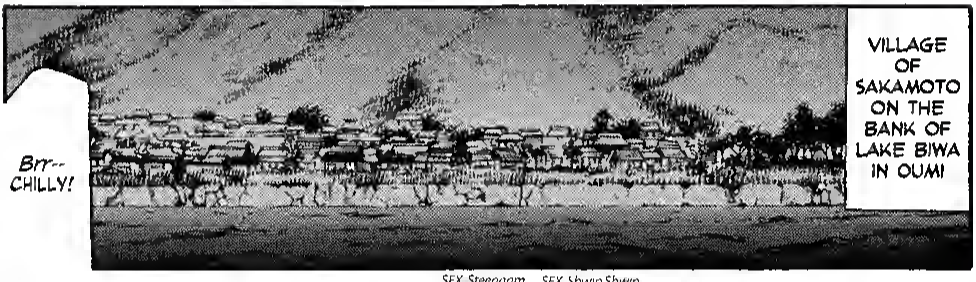
FOR THE SAKE OF THE NEXT GENERATION...

THERE ARE SPIES IN THE CASTLE
I BELIEVE... THERE ARE REASONS HE CAN'T...
SO I RELIED OVERLY MUCH ON YOSHINARI.

IF THAT IS THE CASE, THEN GREAT!
BUT HE SHOULD TELL US CLEARLY, IN PROPER WORDS...!

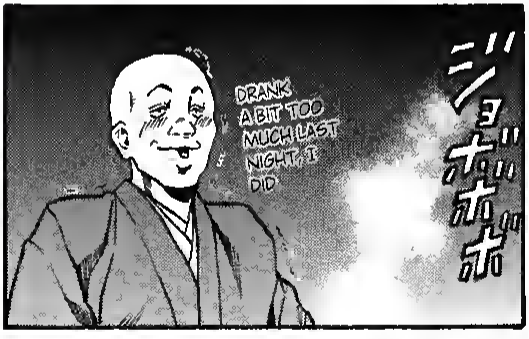
WE HAVE HEARD MORE THAN ENOUGH.

IF OUR LORD'S INTENTION IS TO SERVE THE NEXT GENERATION... IF THIS IS FOR THE SAKE OF OUR CHILDREN'S GENERATION...



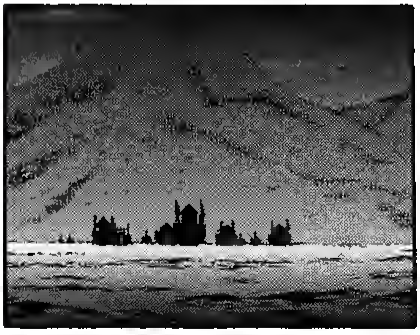
SFX: Steeeaam

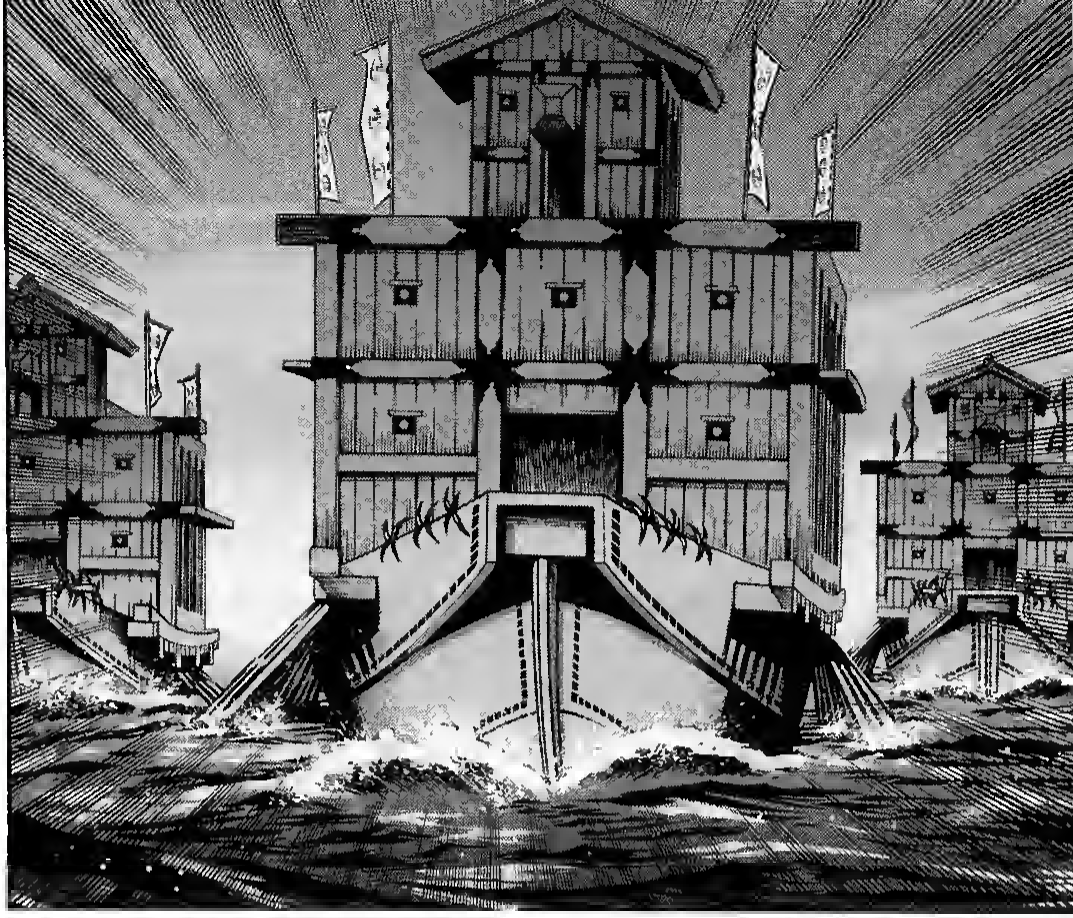
SFX: Shwip Shwip



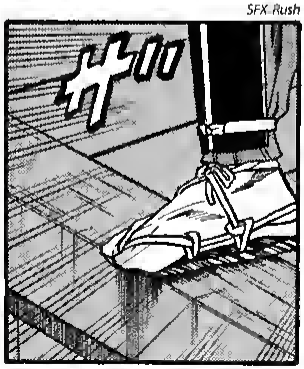
SFX: Stea—

SFX: Steeeaam





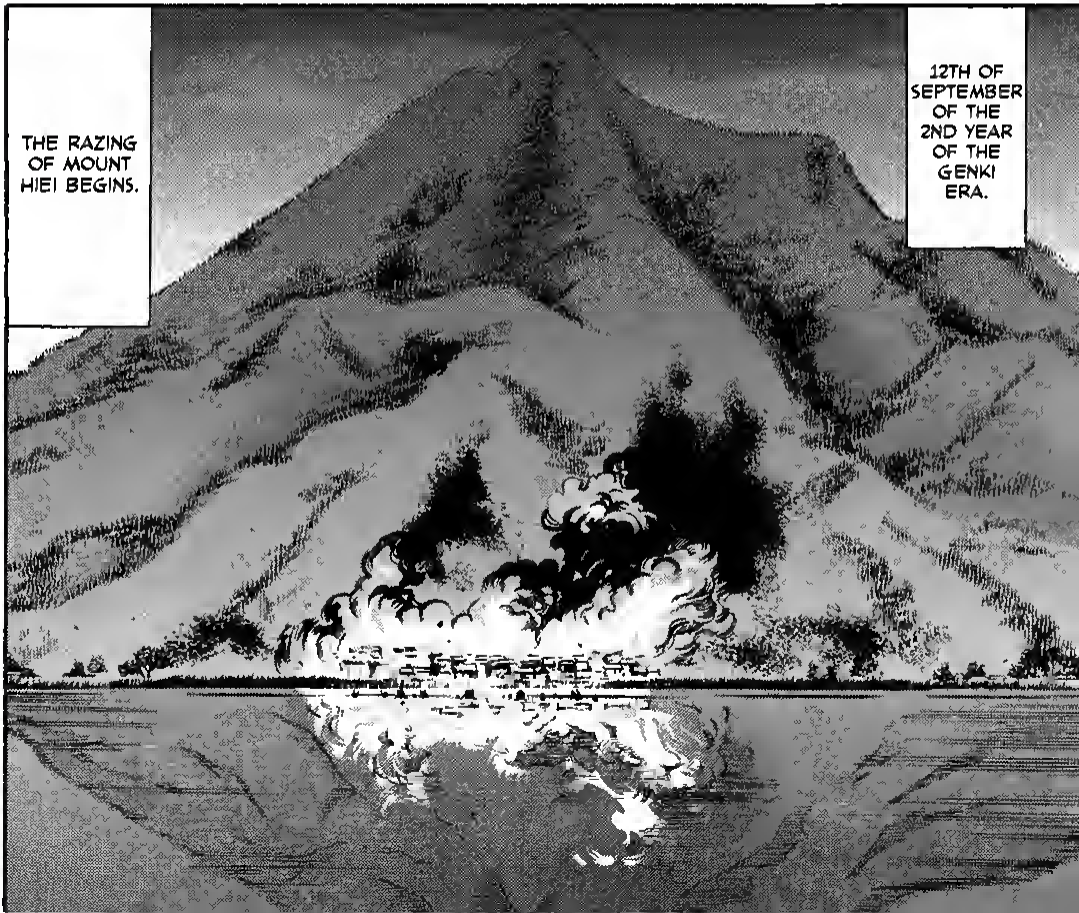
SFX: Rush SFX: Clunk Clunk



SFX Waaaaaaaah

TAKE DOWN THE WARRIOR MONKS!
BURN DOWN THIS MOUNTAIN BASE VILLAGE OF SAKA-MOTO!
ワアアア
SFX Waaaaaaah

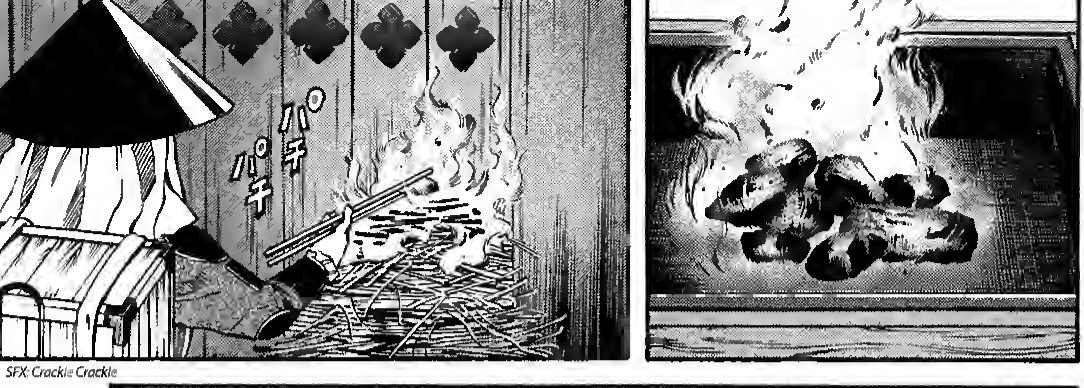
THE ENEMY IS MOUNT HIEI'S ENRYAKU TEMPLE!
CHARGE!


THE RAZING OF MOUNT HIEI BEGINS.
12TH OF SEPTEMBER OF THE 2ND YEAR OF THE GENKI ERA.

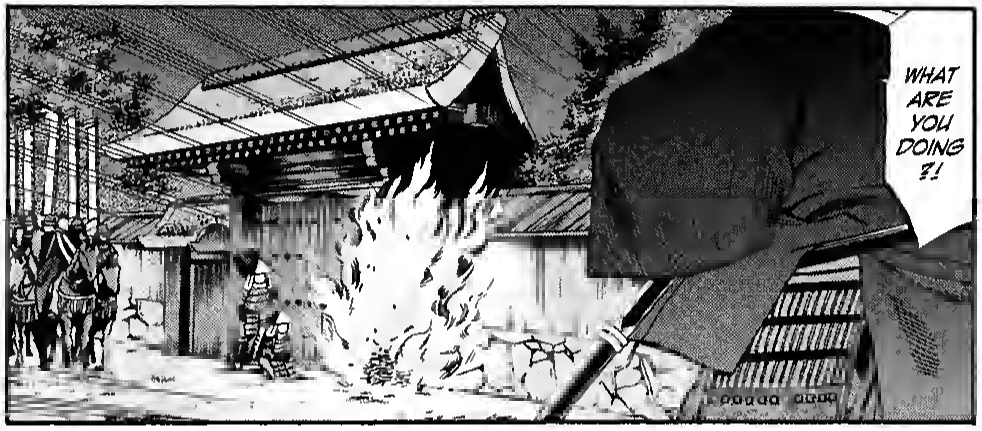
Chapter 60: Setting Aflame

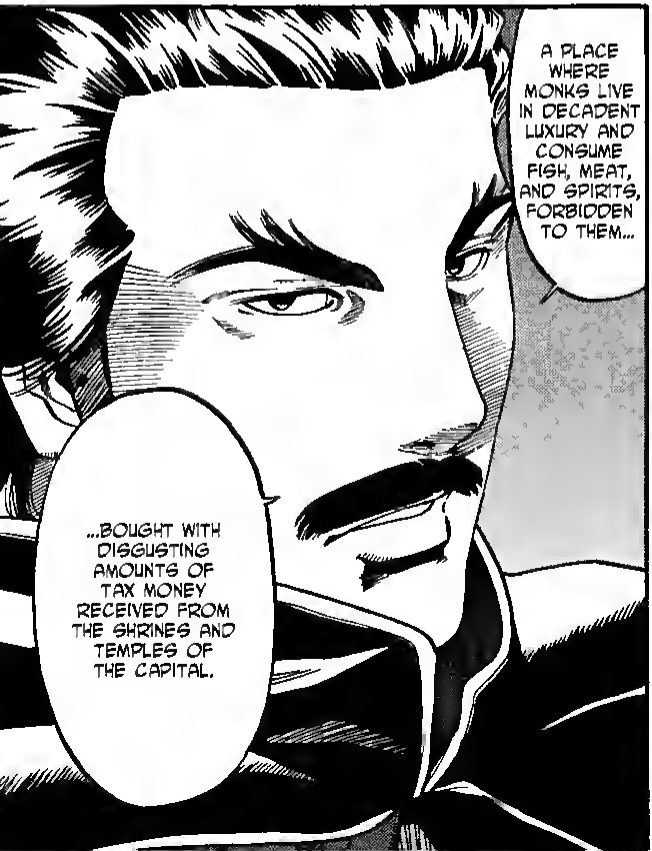
SFX: Clang Clang

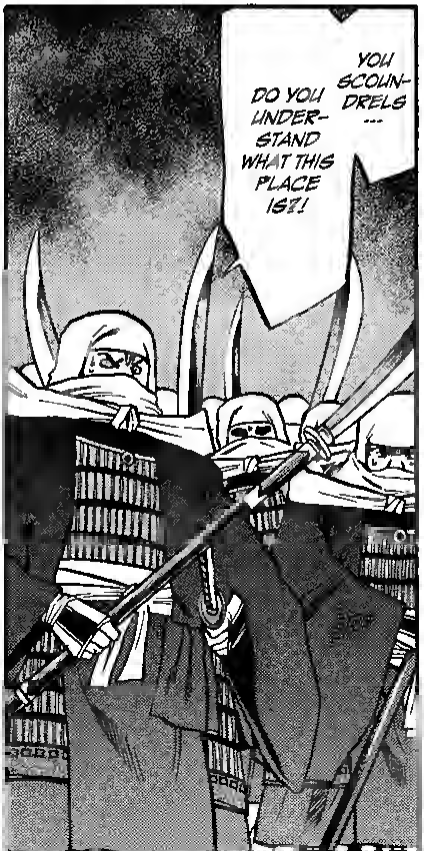
SFX Clonk
ENE--
YES, SIR.
BRING FORTH THE TORCHES!
YES, SIR.
TOO NOISY...
KATSUIE, BURN THIS TEMPLE DOWN.



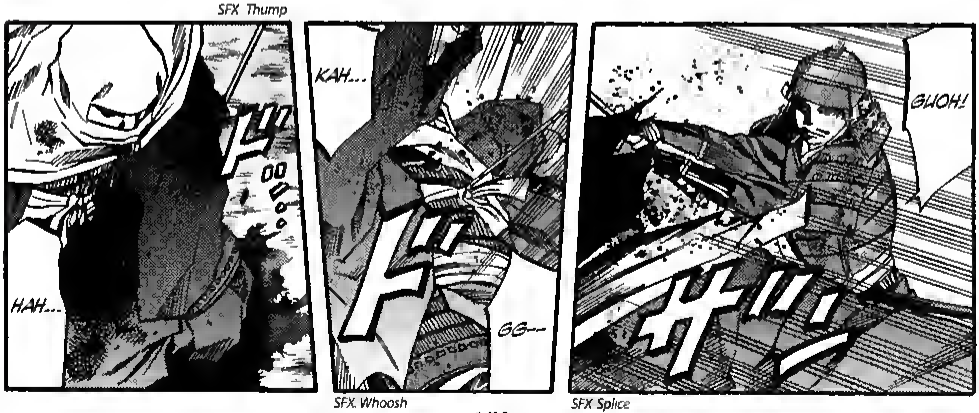
SFX: Crackle Crackle

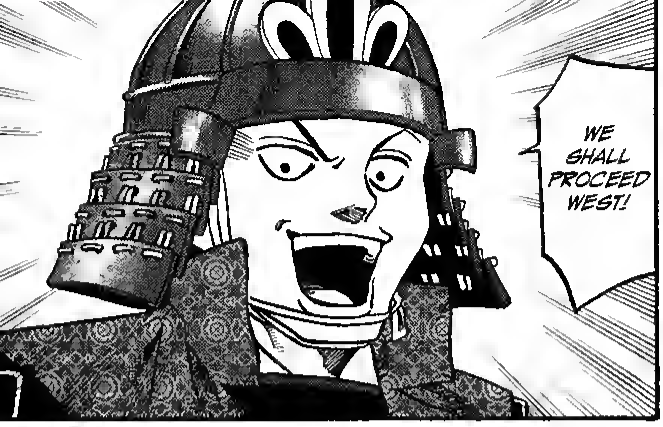


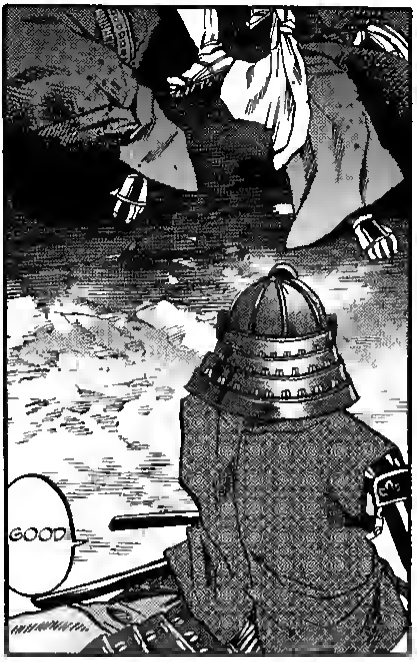

A PLACE WHERE MONKS LIVE IN DECADENT LUXURY AND CONSUME FISH, MEAT, AND SPIRITS, FORBIDDEN TO THEM...
...BOUGHT WITH DISGUSTING AMOUNTS OF TAX MONEY RECEIVED FROM THE SHRINES AND TEMPLES OF THE CAPITAL.



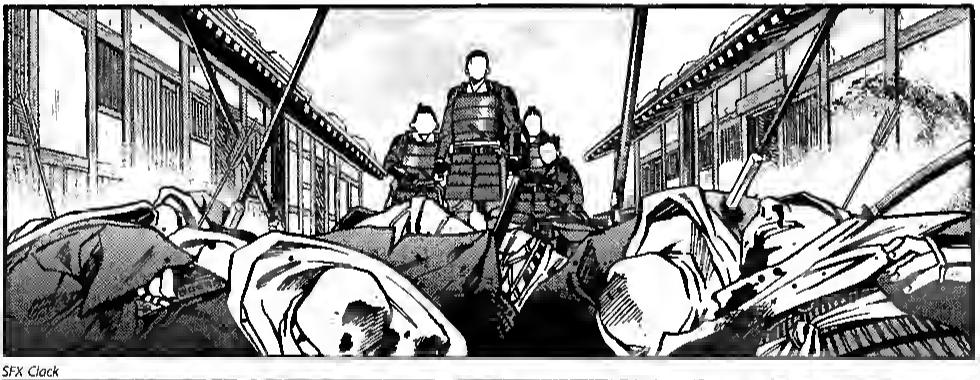
YES, SIR!
KAT-SUIE.


SFX: Thump
HAH...
KAH...
GG--
SFX: Whoosh
GUOH!
SFX: Splice

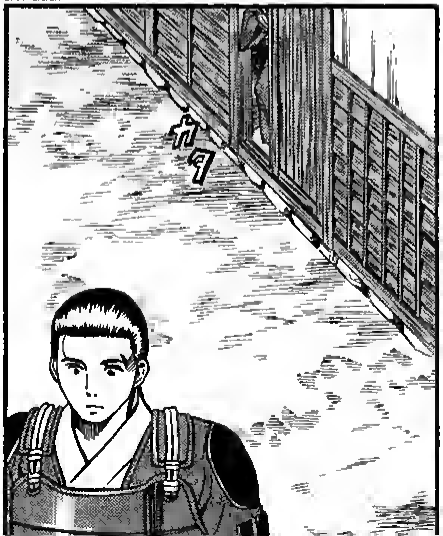




SFX Gallop Gallop

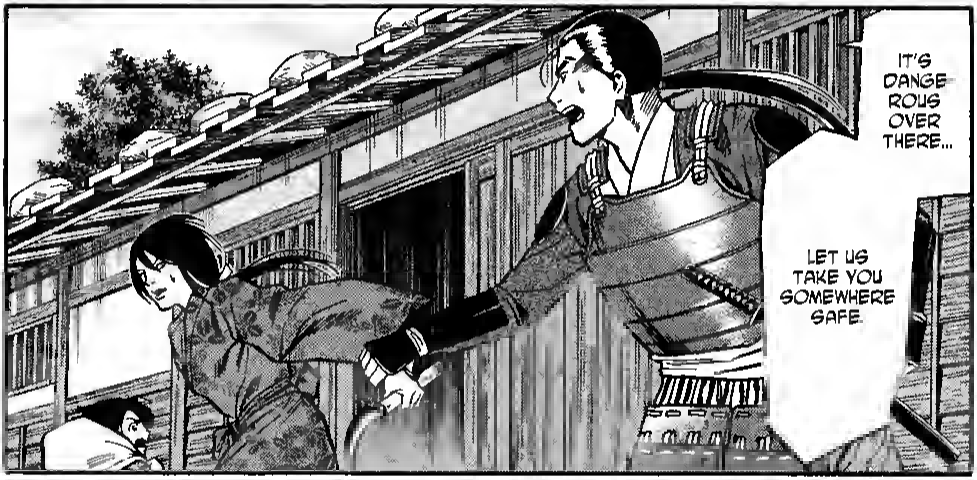


SFX Clack

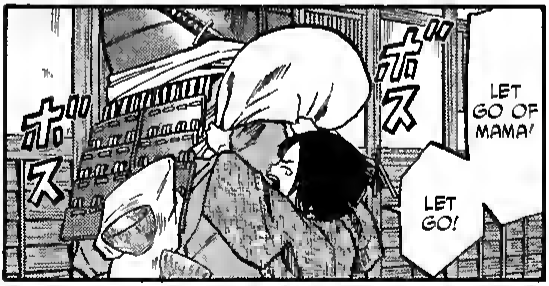


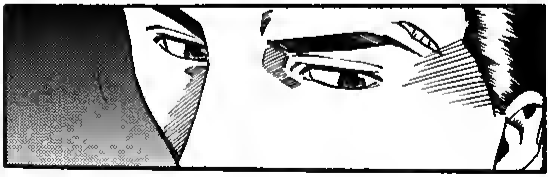
SFX: Tap Tap

SFX: Grab



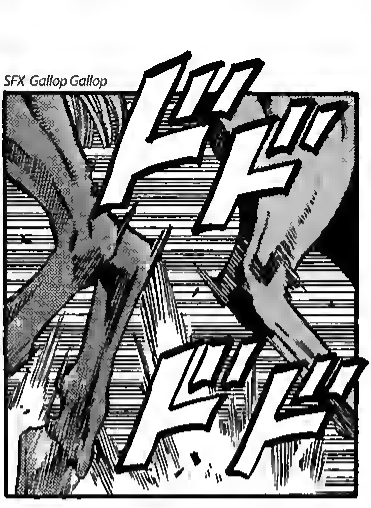
SFX: Buff Buff

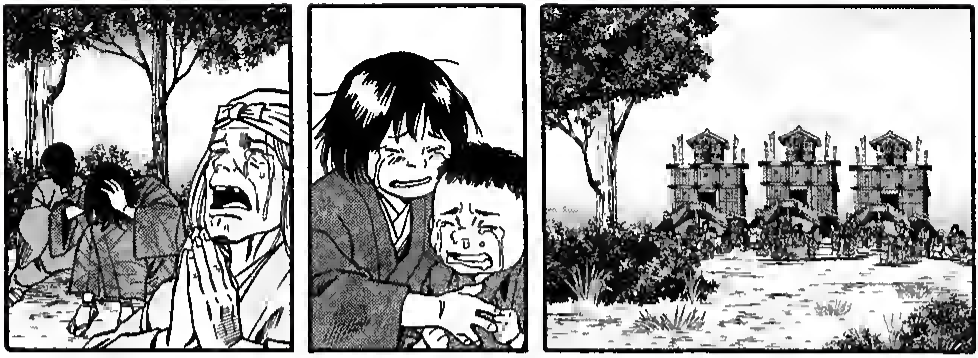




SFX Clatter
THIS PLACE WILL SOON BE ENGULFED IN FLAMES.
TRUST ME..
I'LL GUIDE YOU TO A SAFE PLACE.
カニンカニン
...!
HERE.
COME WITH US.

NEXT IS THE MOUNTAIN!
THE VILLAGE OF SAKAMOTO HAS BEEN ESSENTIALLY NEUTRALIZED.


SFX Gallop Gallop
ドドド



IT'S ONLY NATURAL. SWALLOWED BY STRIFE, THEY'VE LOST EVEN A PLACE TO LIVE.
EVERYONE'S TERRIFIED...

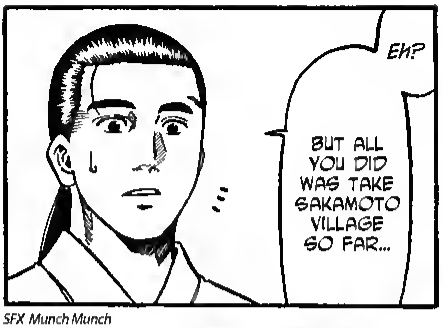
KEN, THE LORD SUMMONS YOU!

SFX Swip

CAMPAIGN FOOD THIS TIME.
AL-RIGHT!

...FOR ME TO SAY TO THEM...
THERE IS NOTHING...

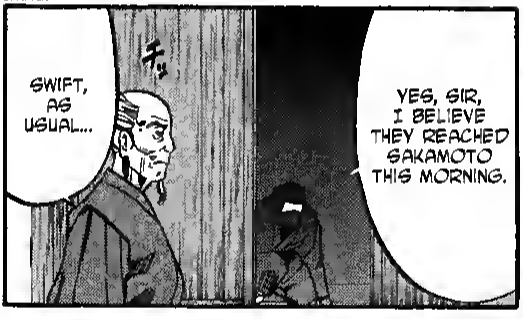
DUCK MARINATED IN MISO AND GRILLED IN BREADCRUMBS, SERVED OVER RICE...
IT'S CALLED KATSU, OR VICTORY RICE.
VIC-TORY...?
フン
FOOL.
SFX: Hmph

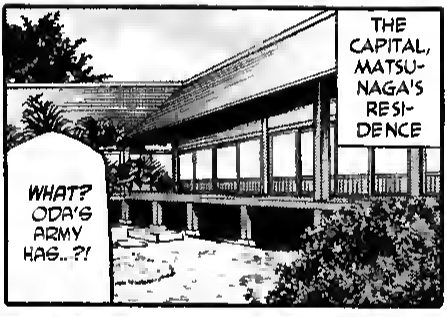


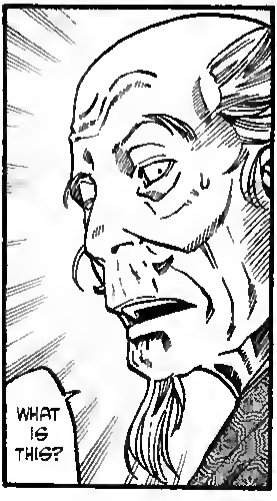
SFX Munch Munch

SFX Tch

SFX Om

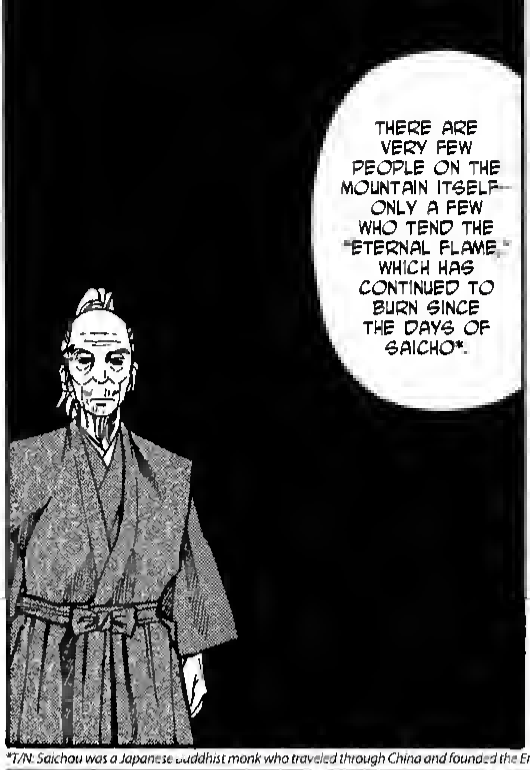




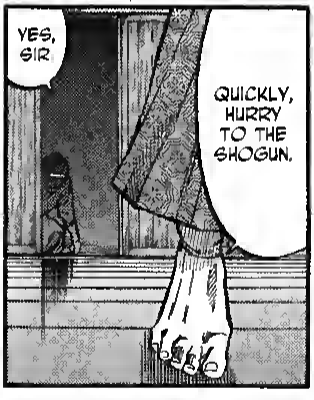


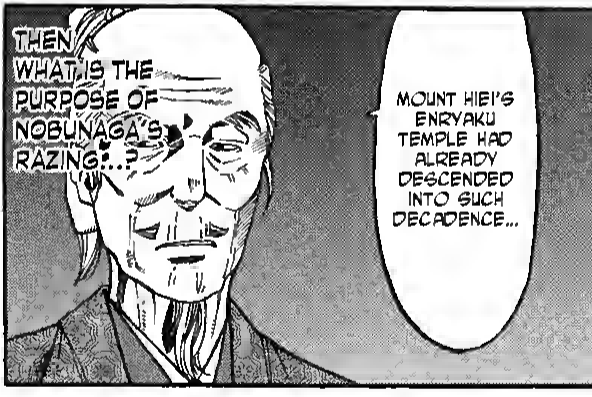
SO THEY MUST ALREADY BE SETTLING THE DECISIVE BATTLE.
THE INFORMATION I GLEANED FROM THE PREVIOUS WAR COUNCIL HAS ALREADY BECOME REDUNDANT LIKE THIS...

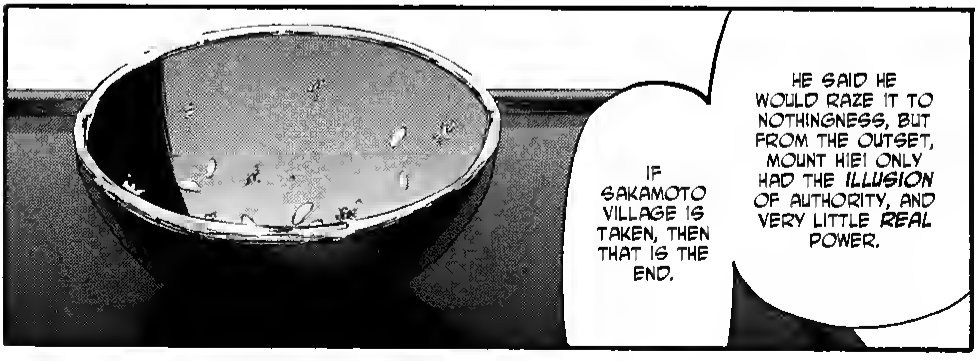
SFX Bang Bang Bang
AS EXPECTED, NO MONKS IN THIS TEMPLE EITHER.
IT IS COMPLETELY EMPTY.
FLAME BEARER.
YESSIR.
THE LORD HAD ALREADY DISCOVERED THIS THROUGH HIS NETWORK OF SPIES...
BRILLANT.


THERE ARE VERY FEW PEOPLE ON THE MOUNTAIN ITSELF— ONLY A FEW WHO TEND THE "ETERNAL FLAME," WHICH HAS CONTINUED TO BURN SINCE THE DAYS OF SAICHO*.

*T/N: Saichou was a Japanese Buddhist monk who traveled through China and founded the Enryaku Temple and Tendai sect in the 9th century.



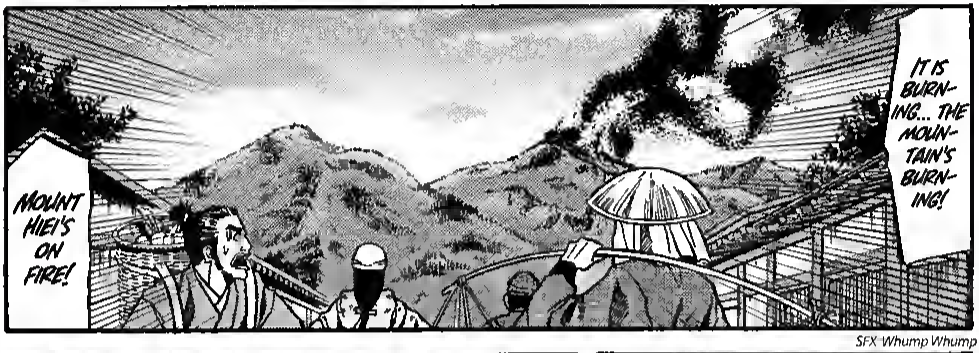



IF SAKAMOTO VILLAGE IS TAKEN, THEN THAT IS THE END.
HE SAID HE WOULD RAZE IT TO NOTHINGNESS, BUT FROM THE OUTSET, MOUNT HIEI ONLY HAD THE ILLUSION OF AUTHORITY, AND VERY LITTLE REAL POWER.

THAT MOUN-TAIN...
ALL THOSE WHO STAND IN MY WAY SHALL BE ANNIHILATED.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN WHY WERE YOU SO BENT ON RAZING MOUNT HIE!...?
IGNITE!
SFX Roar

SFX Roooar

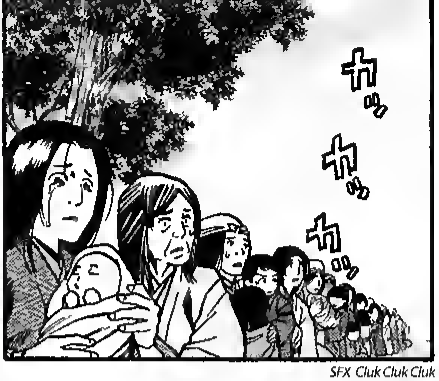
SFX: Chatter



SFX: Whump Whump

...TO WARN ALL OF JAPAN THAT ANYONE WHO POINTS HIS SWORD AT NOBUNAGA WILL BE DESTROYED!
THE RAZING OF MOUNT HIEI WAS A PERFORMANCE...

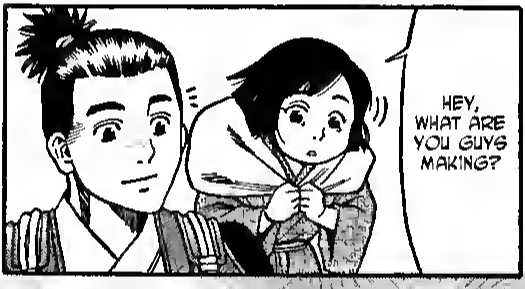
SFX Swip
ARE THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN SAFE?
YES, SIR, THOUGH I'D LIKE TO GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO EAT.
DO AS YOU LIKE.
WE ARE NOT STAYING IN SAKAMOTO...
SO FEEL FREE TO TAKE THEM TO THE SHORE.
EVERYONE, PLEASE HELP.
WE'RE GOING TO MAKE A FILLING MEAL FROM THE REMAINING MILITARY RATIONS.
BOSS, WE ARE MAKING THAT DISH YOU MAKE SOMETIMES WITH THE VEGETABLE SHAVINGS, RIGHT?
FINELY DICE THE VEGETABLES...
...AND GRATE THE YAM.
MAKE MAYONNAISE FROM EGG, VINEGAR, AND FAT.
Hehe, I THINK I ALREADY GOT THE HANG OF THIS!



SFX Cluk Cluk Cluk

SFX Ssszzzzz

GOOD, NOW STIR IT IN A WAY THAT GIVES IT SOME AIR.
YEGGIR.
YOU'VE MIXED THE WHEAT FLOUR, VEGETABLES, YAMS, AND BONITO FLAKES IN A BOWL, RIGHT?



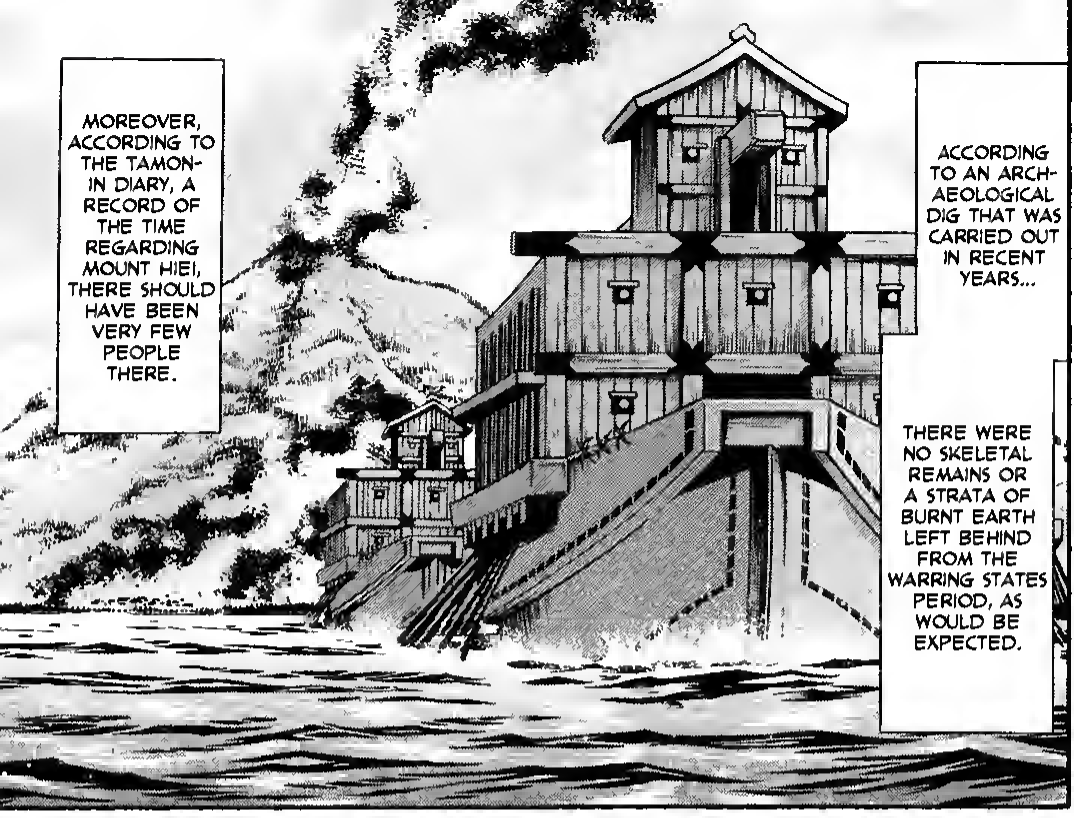
SFX Plop

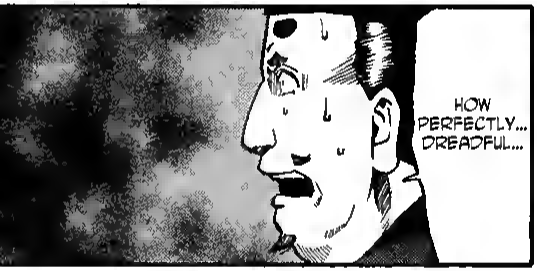
*TN: Japanese style savory pancake

THOSE NUTRIENTS WILL HELP CALM THEIR NERVES.
THERE'S A LOT OF CALCIUM AND VITAMIN B IN THE YAMS.
SFX Sqmt
BUT...
EVEN WHEN WE ARE SO SAD, WE STILL FEEL HUNGRY.
PEOPLE ARE SUCH HYPO-CRITES...
IT IS... DELI-CIOUS ...

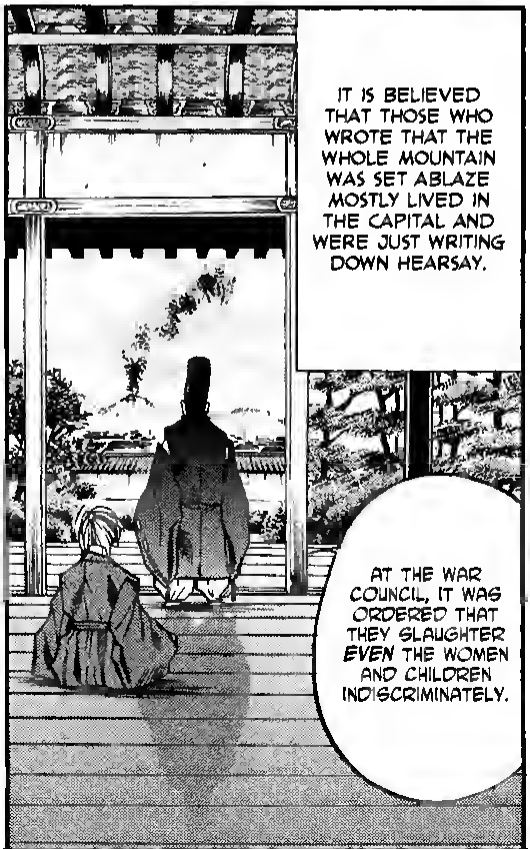
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT I BECOME A PART OF THE STRENGTH THAT LET'S THEM LIVE TOMORROW.
WHAT THEY FEEL ABOUT TODAY IS IRRELEVANT...
THANK YOU.
IT WAS DELI-CIOUS
SFX Smooch

IS THIS THE TRUTH OF THE RAZING OF MOUNT HIEI...?


MOREOVER, ACCORDING TO THE TAMON-IN DIARY, A RECORD OF THE TIME REGARDING MOUNT HIEI, THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN VERY FEW PEOPLE THERE.
ACCORDING TO AN ARCH-AEOLOGICAL DIG THAT WAS CARRIED OUT IN RECENT YEARS...
THERE WERE NO SKELETAL REMAINS OR A STRATA OF BURNT EARTH LEFT BEHIND FROM THE WARRING STATES PERIOD, AS WOULD BE EXPECTED.


HOW PERFECTLY... DREADFUL...

LET ME CURRY FAVOR AS THE LORD'S INFAMY GROWS.

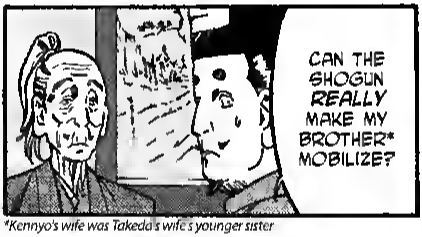

IT IS BELIEVED THAT THOSE WHO WROTE THAT THE WHOLE MOUNTAIN WAS SET ABLAZE MOSTLY LIVED IN THE CAPITAL AND WERE JUST WRITING DOWN HEARSAY.
AT THE WAR COUNCIL, IT WAS ORDERED THAT THEY SLAUGHTER *EVEN* THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN INDISCRIMINATELY.

...IN MY WAR.
THERE IS NO HOLY LAND...
SO YOU DON THE TITLE OF DEMON OF YOUR OWN ACCORD...
ODA-DONO...!
.....
KEN-NYO-SAMA ...

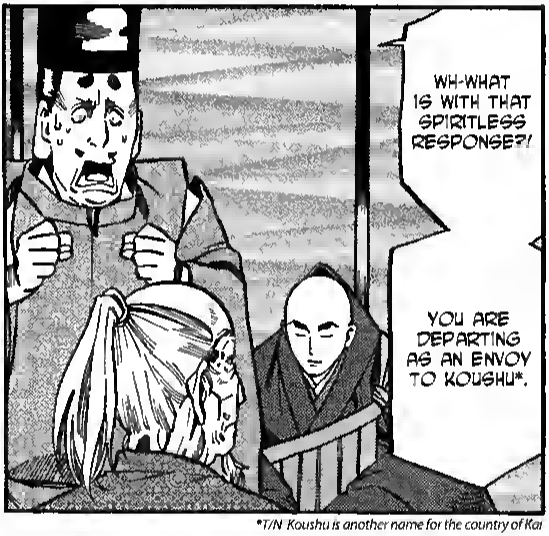
WHAT INHUMANITY, TO ATTACK AND BURN THE HOLY MOUNT HIEI AND SLAUGHTER EVERY LAST WOMAN AND CHILD!
EVEN SHOULD THE HEAVENS FORGIVE YOU, I NEVER SHALL!
I COMMAND YOU TO MOBILIZE THE TIGER OF KAI AND DEFEAT THAT ODA!

SFX: Turn Turn

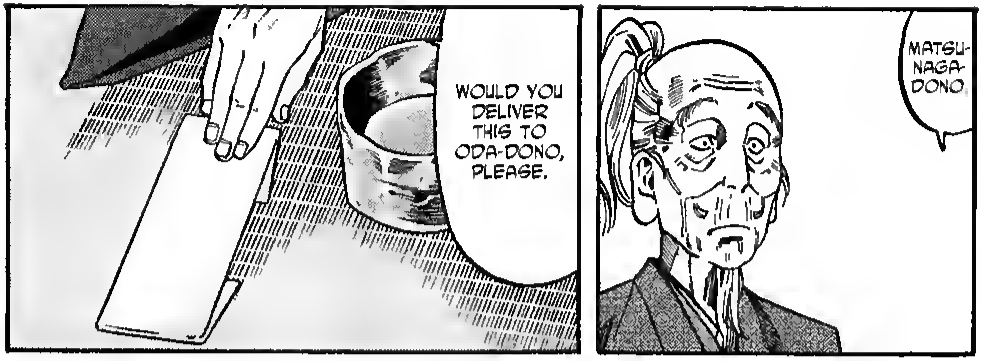
SFX: Swish Swish Swish



*Kennyo's wife was Takeda's wife's younger sister



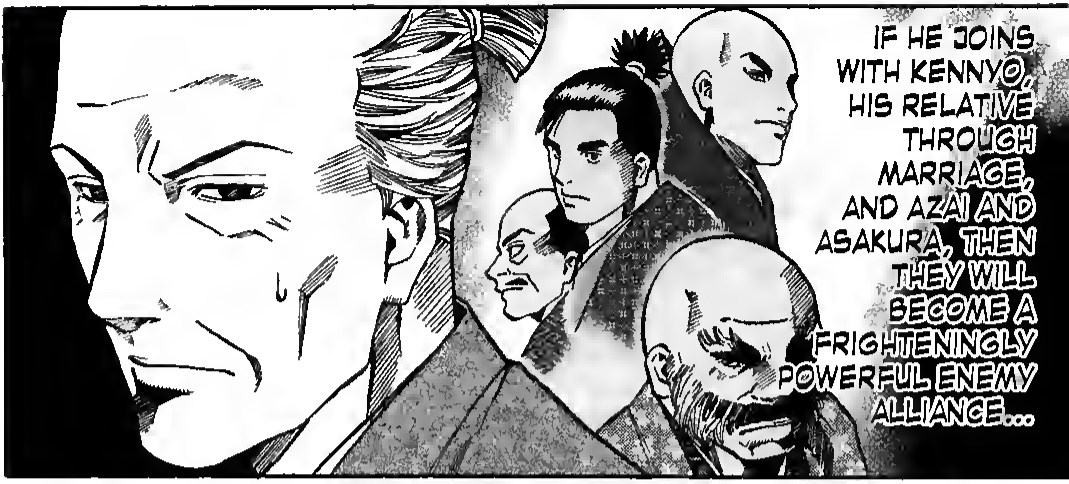
*T/N: Koushu is another name for the country of Kai

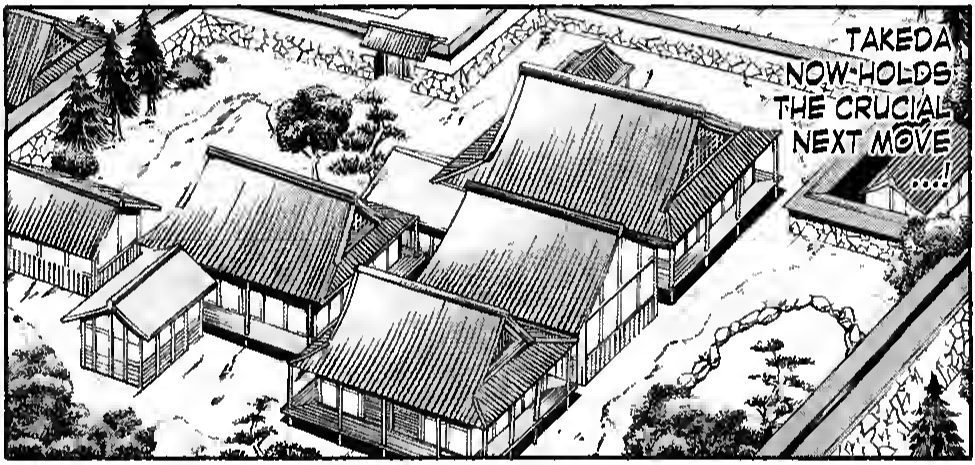

WOULD YOU DELIVER THIS TO ODA-DONO, PLEASE.
MATSU-NAGA-DONO.

THE CAPITAL IN OCTOBER OF THE 2ND YEAR OF THE GENKI (1571)

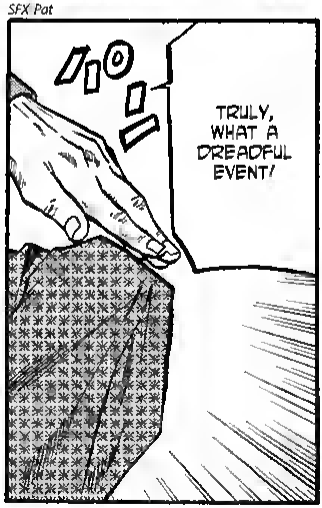
SFX Chatter
ザワ
ザワ
ザワ
THIS CAPITAL MIGHT EVEN BE NEXT!
WHAT A TERRIFYING MAN.
THEY SAY THEY RAZED MOUNT HIEI AND SLAUGHTERED EVERY LAST SOUL.
SFX Chatter Chatter

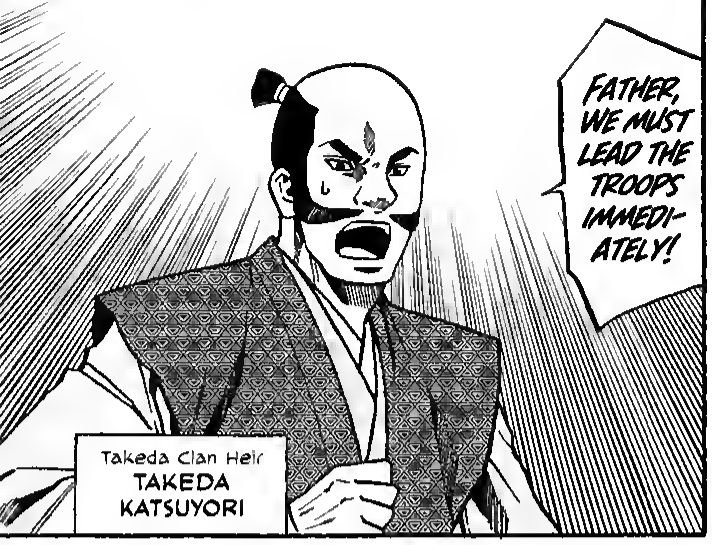
RUMORS ARE RUNNING RAMPANT ...
THIS MIGHT NOT END WELL IF WORD REACHES TAKEDA SHINGEN'S EARS...


IF HE JOINS WITH KENNYO, HIS RELATIVE THROUGH MARRIAGE, AND AZAI AND ASAKURA, THEN THEY WILL BECOME A FRIGHTENINGLY POWERFUL ENEMY ALLIANCE...


TAKEDA NOW HOLDS THE CRUCIAL NEXT MOVE ....!

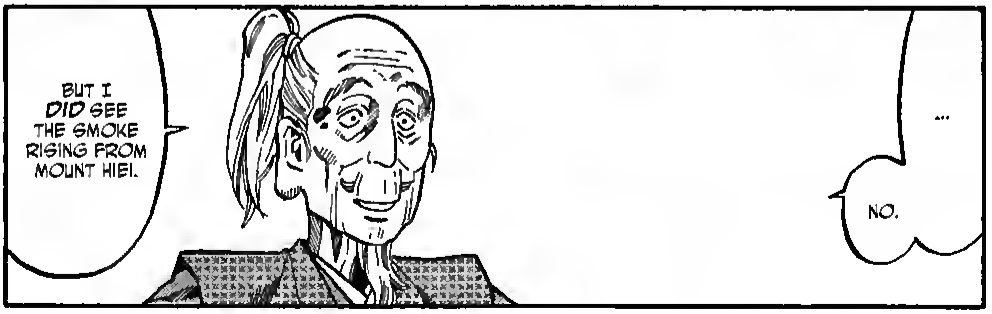
IN THE FACE OF SUCH INIQUITY, EVEN I, MATSUNAGA, CAN NO LONGER SLEEP AT NIGHT, SO PAINED IS MY HEART.
THE INHUMANITY OF RAZING THE HOLY LAND OF MOUNT HIEI AND SLAUGHTERING EVERY LAST WOMAN AND CHILD!


SFX: Pat
TRULY, WHAT A DREADFUL EVENT!


FATHER, WE MUST LEAD THE TROOPS IMMEDIATELY!
Takeda Clan Heir
TAKEDA KATSUYORI

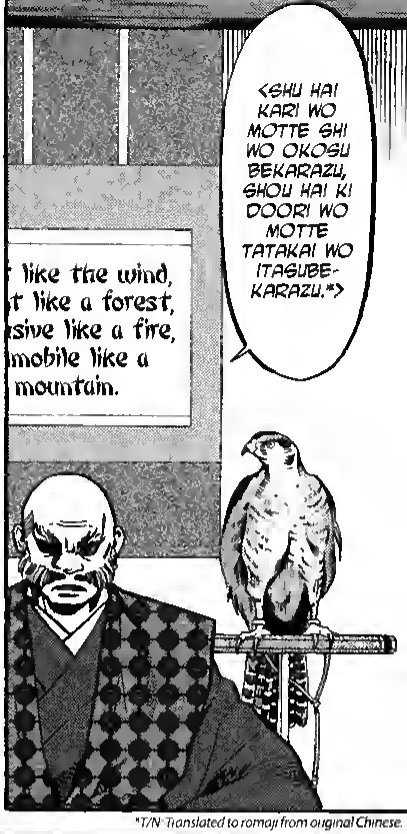
HOW CAN THIS BE...?

MATSU-NAGA...
DID YOU SEE IT WITH YOUR OWN EYES?

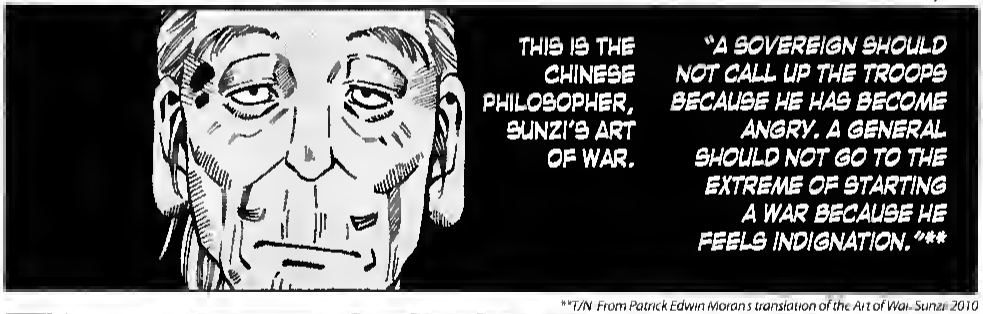

...
NO.
BUT I DID SEE THE SMOKE RISING FROM MOUNT HIEI.

SFX: Glare

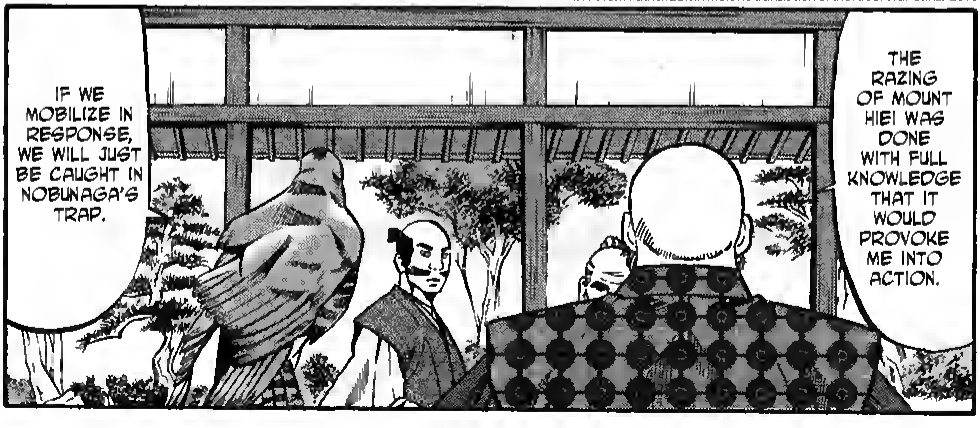
SFX: Ugh



*T/N: Translated to romaji from original Chinese.


THIS IS THE CHINESE PHILOSOPHER, SUNZI'S ART OF WAR.
"A SOVEREIGN SHOULD NOT CALL UP THE TROOPS BECAUSE HE HAS BECOME ANGRY. A GENERAL SHOULD NOT GO TO THE EXTREME OF STARTING A WAR BECAUSE HE FEELS INDIGNATION."**

**T/N: From Patrick Edwin Moran's translation of the Art of War-Sunzi 2010

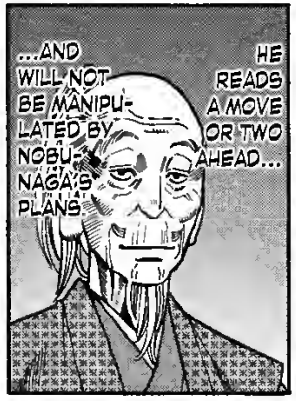

IF WE MOBILIZE IN RESPONSE, WE WILL JUST BE CAUGHT IN NOBUNAGA'S TRAP.
THE RAZING OF MOUNT HIEI WAS DONE WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE THAT IT WOULD PROVOKE ME INTO ACTION.

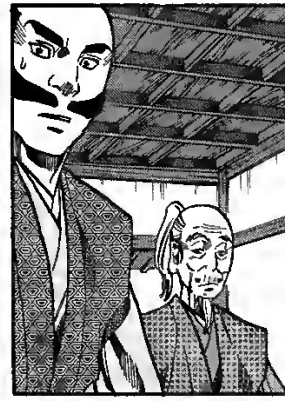
NOBUNAGA IS A MAN WHO NEVER ACTS WHEN THERE IS NO GAIN.
PRO-VOKE... INTO ACTION?
DO YOU TRULY THINK WE CAN AFFORD TO ATTACK ODA WITH THOSE ENEMIES POISED BEHIND US?
RIGHT NOW, AT OUR BACKS, ARE THE UESUGI OF ECHIGO AND HOUJOU OF MUSASHI.
IF THEY ALL MOVE ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN DESIGNS....
IT IS THE SAME AS TRYING TO PLAY GO WITH ONE'S EYES CLOSED.
AND *WHO* COMMANDS THOSE ALLIED FORCES?
HOWEVER... IF YOU ACT NOW, THEN YOU SHALL HAVE AN ALLIANCE WITH AZAI, ASAKURA, AND THE HONGAN TEMPLE.

NOW, WE ARE AS A MOUNTAIN ...
...THE BEST STRATEGY IS TO KEEP HIM SURROUNDED AND PREVENT HIM FROM FLEEING...
Fast like the wind,
Silent like a forest,
Intrusive like a fire,
Immobile like a mountain.

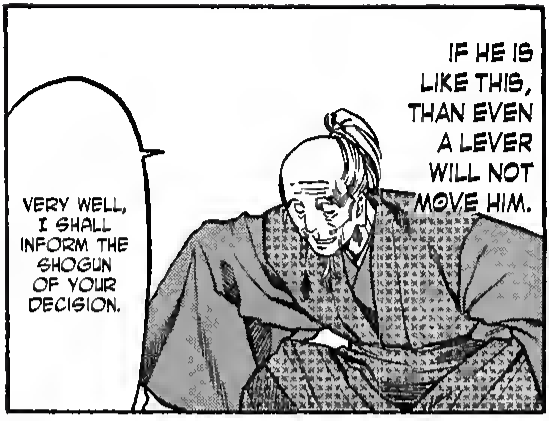
LIKE THE WIND.
IF THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF, WE SHALL STRIKE.

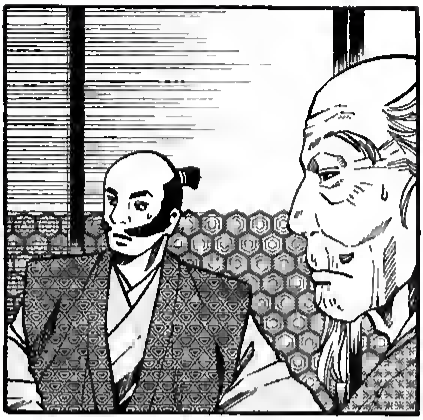
FOR HIM, AS LONG AS HE CAN PITCH A BATTLE, HE CAN DESTROY THIS ENCIRCLEMENT.
NOBUNAGA DESIRES BATTLE.


...AND WILL NOT BE MANIPULATED BY NOBUNAGA'S PLANS.
HE READS A MOVE OR TWO AHEAD...

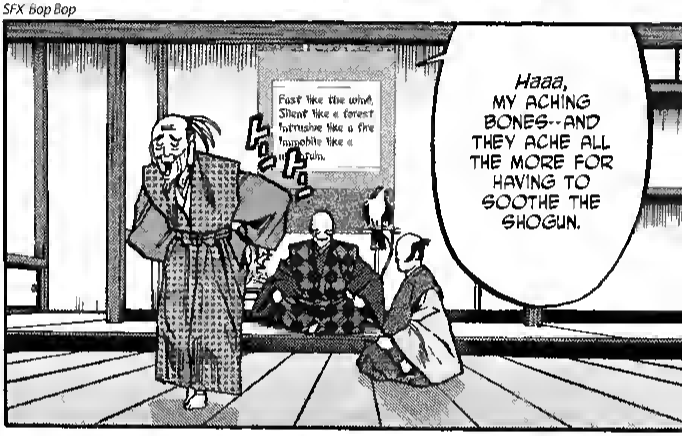


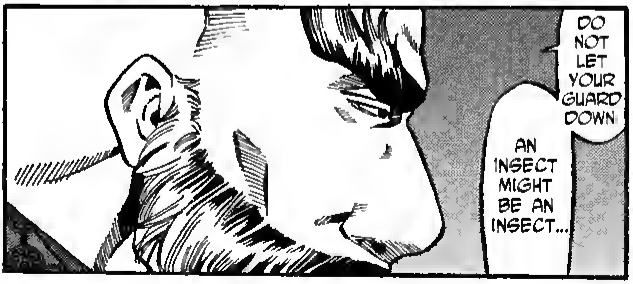
IN WHICH CASE, THE RAZING OF MOUNT HIEI IS ODA'S INVITATION TO THE NOBUNAGA OPPOSITION ALLIANCE!
IT CAN BE SAID THAT THE STANDOFF IS STILL THE SAME AS THEN.
LAST YEAR, NOBUNAGA AVOIDED A DECISIVE CONFRONTATION WITH THE AZAI-ASAKURA TROOPS HOLED UP ON MOUNT HIEI AND WAS IN SOMETHING OF A PREDICAMENT.



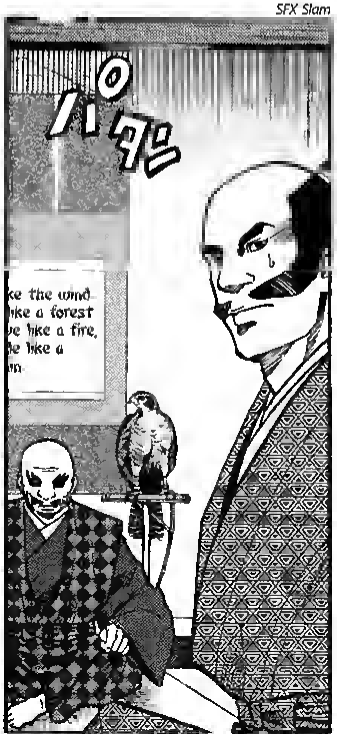


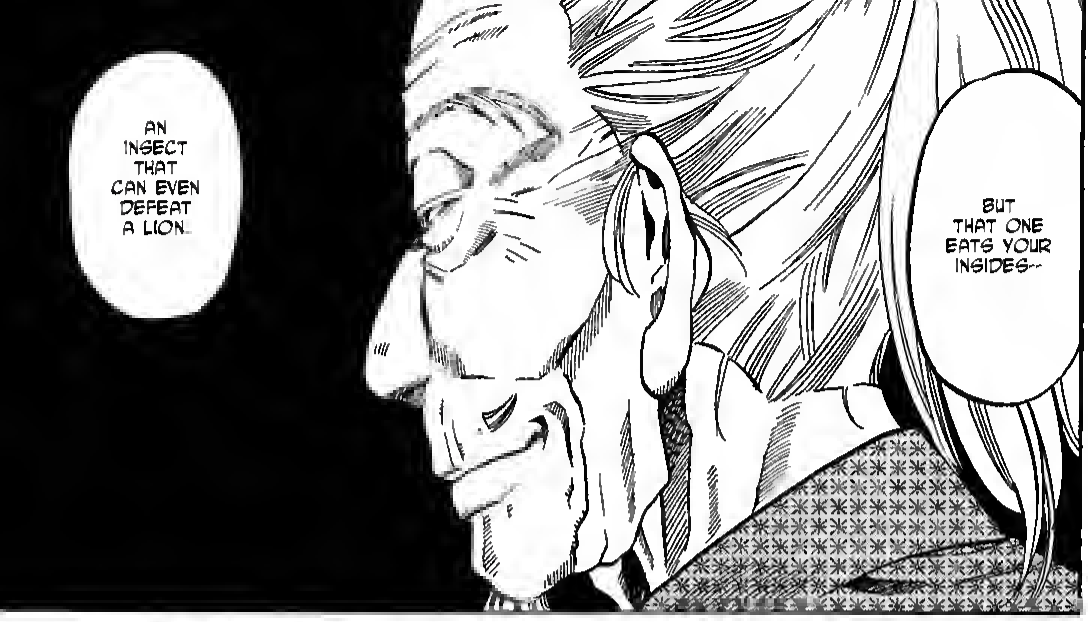
SFX Bop Bop



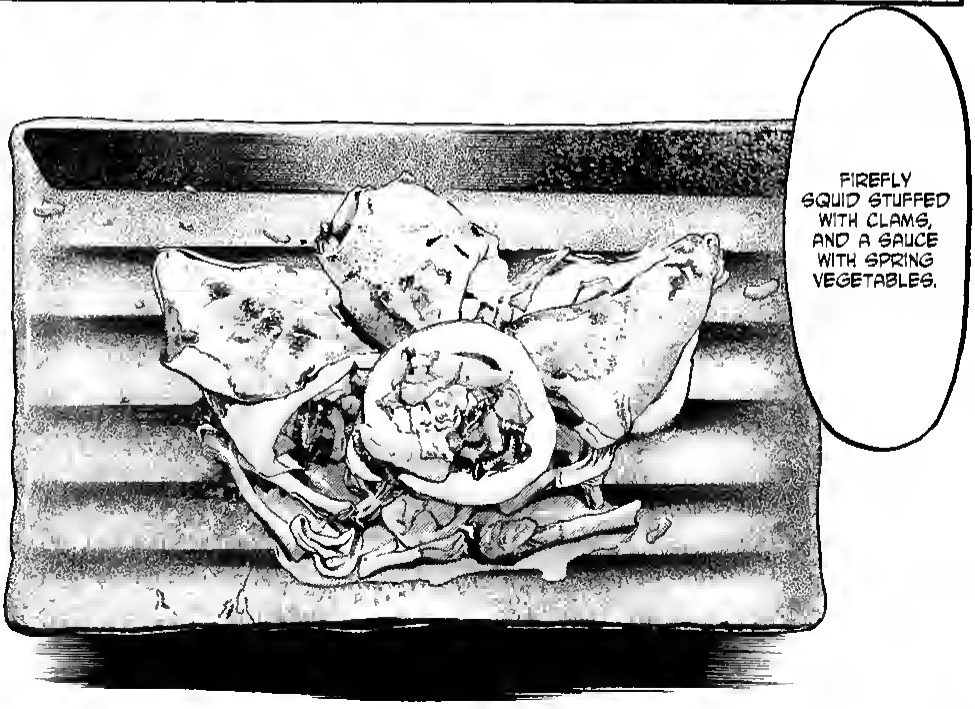


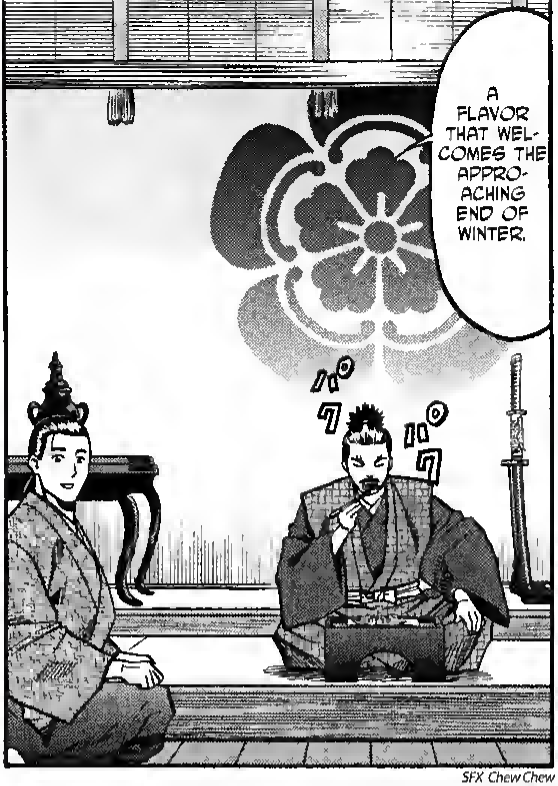
SFX Slam



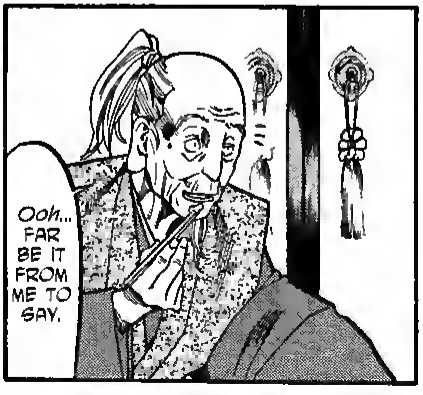

AN INSECT THAT CAN EVEN DEFEAT A LION...
BUT THAT ONE EATS YOUR INSIDES--

GIFU CASTLE IN FEBRUARY OF THE 3RD YEAR OF THE GENKI (1572)


FIREFLY SQUID STUFFED WITH CLAMS, AND A SAUCE WITH SPRING VEGETABLES.



SFX Chew Chew



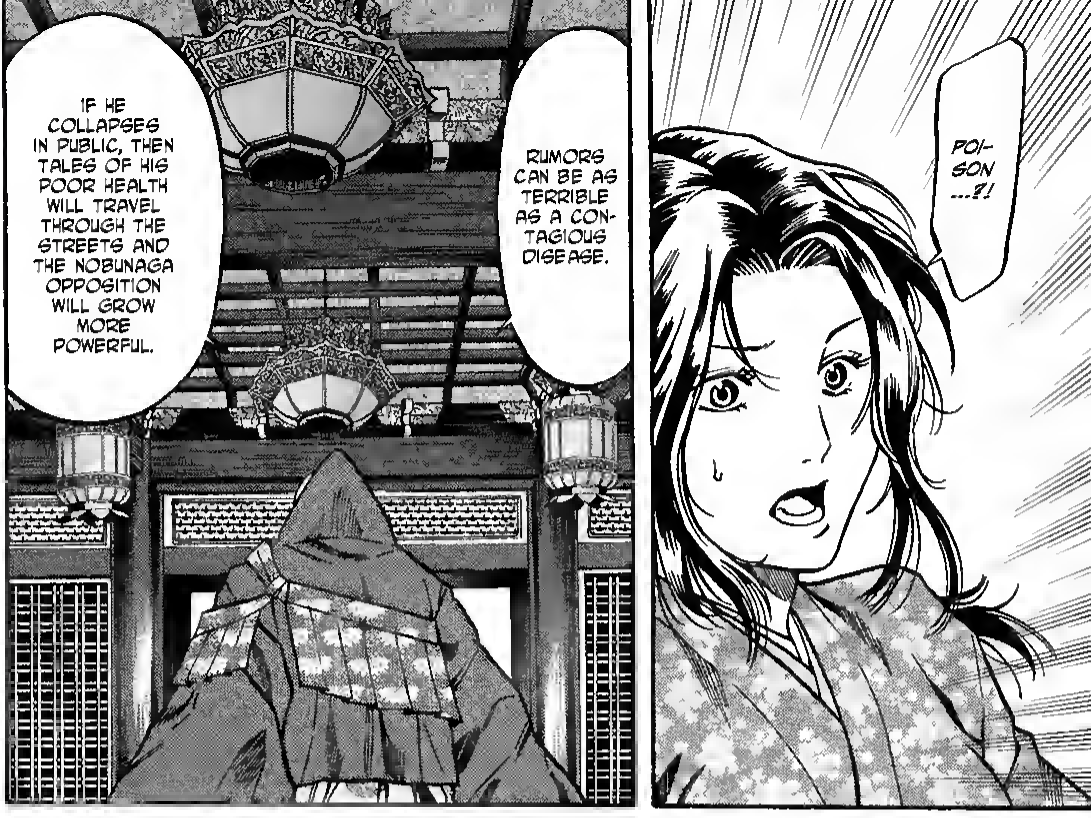
SFX Crunch
MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE HAVE RECEIVED AN ENVOY FROM ISHIYAMA.*
*Ishiyama: Short for the Ishiyama Hongan Temple
AND... WHAT DID KENNYO SAY?
ALLOW ME TO LAUNCH THE ATTACK ON ODA-DONO FROM ANOTHER FRONT.
SFX Chew
"...IN THE CAPITAL, IN FRONT OF THE NAYASHUU OF SAKAI, THE NOBLES OF THE IMPERIAL COURT, AND WITH THE SHOGUNAL RETAINERS STANDING WITNESS."
"I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE PEACE ONCE AND FOR ALL..."

SFX: Hmph
THE 'PEACE AGREEMENTS' OF THIS PERIOD WERE MERELY METHODS TO GAIN A BIT OF TIME...
IT IS JUST A PEACE NEGOTIATION TO GAIN TIME, AS SHINGEN IS NOT COMING FORTH.
APPARENTLY, THE OCCASION IS TO CELEBRATE MY TAKING UP RESIDENCE IN THE CAPITAL.
SFX: Chew Chew Gulp
I IMAGINE HE WILL PRESENT PRECIOUS PORCELAIN VESSELS TO YOU AS GIFTS FOR THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.
IF I COMPARE WITH PREVIOUS EXAMPLES ...
モグモグ ゴクリ
WHAT DO YOU THINK KENNYO WILL BRING TO THE TABLE?
IN THAT CASE, I WILL BE PLEASED TO GO AND HUMOR HIM.
PORCE-LAIN, IS IT?
SFX: Grin

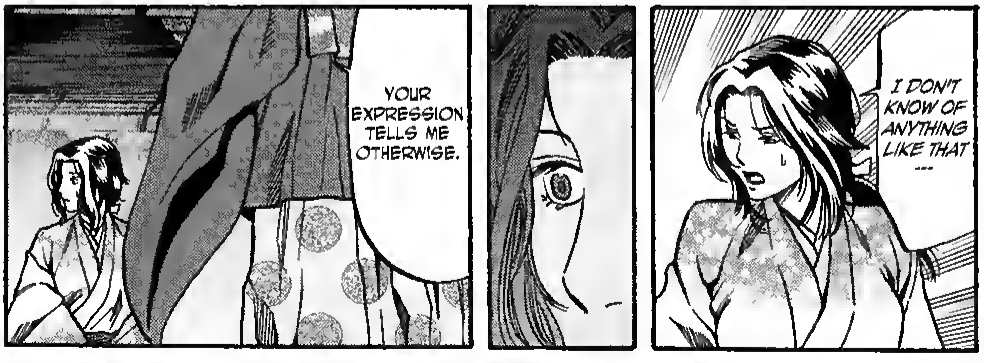
YES, MY LORD.
KEN, YOU SHALL PREPARE FOOD AS OUR RECIPROCAL GIFT.
FOOD TO COMPARE WITH THE VALUE OF PRECIOUS PORCELAINS... NO, TO ECLIPSE IT!
THAT'S NOT EASY... BUT I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.
FOOD THAT WON'T LOSE TO PRICELESS POTTERY...
I WONDER IF SHE'LL BE GOING TO THE CAPITAL TOO?
COME TO THINK OF IT, IF IT'S THE HONGAN TEMPLE...

YOU REALLY HAVE A KNACK FOR THIS, JUST LIKE I THOUGHT!
Aah...
Ah... NO, I MEAN THAT YOU'RE QUICK AT REMEMBERING AND MAKE BEAUTIFUL WORK.
Huh?
RIGHT ...
YOUKO-DONO, KENNYO-SAMA SUMMONS YOU.

ONCE MORE, I AM ASKING ODA-DONO TO JOIN ME IN THE CAPITAL FOR NEGOTIATIONS.
EVER SINCE THE NAGASHIMA BATTLE IN ISE, THE PEACE AGREEMENT WITH ODA-DONO HAS BEEN KEPT PERFECTLY.
AS HE SITS THERE WITH ME, I WOULD LIKE YOU TO POISON ODA-DONO.
WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO...?


IF HE COLLAPSES IN PUBLIC, THEN TALES OF HIS POOR HEALTH WILL TRAVEL THROUGH THE STREETS AND THE NOBUNAGA OPPOSITION WILL GROW MORE POWERFUL.
RUMORS CAN BE AS TERRIBLE AS A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE.
POI-SON ---?!

DO YOU KNOW OF ANY GOOD FOOD FOR THIS?
YOUKO ...


YOUR EXPRESSION TELLS ME OTHERWISE.
I DON'T KNOW OF ANYTHING LIKE THAT ---

DO YOU REMEMBER?
TWO YEARS AGO, THAT TIME THAT ODA-DONO WAS PIERCED BY A ROKKAKU ARROW IN THE CHIGUSA PASS?
AT THE TIME, WE HAD MANY CONFLICTING REPORTS AND NOBODY COULD DETERMINE THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER.
SO WHAT NEWS OF ODA-SAMA...?
WE DO NOT KNOW FOR SURE.
SOME ARE SAYING THAT HE DIED ALREADY.
ODA...
ODA NOBUNAGA?
ODA NOBUNAGA...
DOESN'T DIE IN THE PASS.
THE PLACE WHERE ODA NOBUNAGA WILL DIE...
IS NOT THE PASS...

AND THE TRUTH WAS THAT ODA-DONO ESCAPED WITH NARY A SCRATCH.
PLEASE LEND ME YOUR POWER ONCE MORE...
YOUKO
AT THAT TIME, I WAS CONVINCED...
THAT THE BUDDHA OF FORESIGHT HAD DE-SCENDED UPON YOU.
BECAUSE THAT IS THE REASON I KEEP YOU HERE.

Nobunaga no Chef 7 END

Food from the Warring States Period

Column

Text and recipe by Nishimura Mitsuru

In Tokyo, in the 10th year of the Taisho Era, Mr. Murakami Nobuo, the future head chef of the Imperial Hotel, was born. In the 14th year of the Showa Era, he started out in the Imperial Hotel, and then he went to work in the Ritz Hotel in Paris and later became a star chef, developing French cuisine in Japan. In the 16th year of the Showa Era, Mr. Murakami underwent a physical exam for military conscription and was deemed fit for service. He was assigned to a medium-sized infantry gunners division in Shandong, China, and after fighting in numerous battles in the Chinese mainland war, became an experienced gunner. He rose to the rank of corporal of the land forces before his squad was taken in battle. After that, Mr. Murakami was sent to Siberia. As a prisoner of war, he worked in a lumber camp. He worked in a harsh environment where, in the winter, temperatures would dip to below -40 °C. One day, Mr. Murakami was called by a soviet soldier.

"Your comrade was injured while fulfilling his duties, and as the wound is fatal, you will cook him the food he wants for his last meal." Mr. Murakami went to his comrade and asked what he wanted to eat. He responded, "pineapple." Needless to say, there are no pineapples in the extreme climate of Siberia, but for the sake of his friend, Mr. Murakami wracked his brain to prepare this meal. He peeled damaged apples and used the flesh to imitate pineapple and made a sweet sauce with it. Apparently, his comrade very much enjoyed the "pineapple". Shortly thereafter, Mr. Murakami was so surprised when he met that same comrade once again that he jumped in fright. His friend told him, "That pineapple you made was so delicious, I swore to myself that I would definitely survive." It is said that of the 13 people from the Imperial Hotel who entered the military, including Mr. Murakami, only three came back alive.

Recipe

Oeufs à la Neige

Ingredients (2 servings)

3 egg whites / 140g of granulated sugar / 50ml of water / 1tsp of vinegar / raspberries to taste

1. Put the water and 120g of sugar into a pot and it bring to a boil.
2. Whisk the egg whites continually with 20g of sugar in a bowl with a whisk.
3. When the egg white mixture starts to lighten, doubles in volume, and starts to stand stiffly, add the sugar from step 1 a bit at a time, while continuing to stir.
4. Boil water in a pot and add the vinegar.
5. Scoop the meringue with a large spoon and drop it in the boiling water. Boil it on all sides for about 3 minutes.
6. After boiling, place it on a cloth and let it dry.
7. Crush the raspberries into a coulis and pour on top.

Some Extra Tips

1. The vinegar is to make sure the egg whites do not harden. You can substitute with lemon juice (lemon also adds a nice aroma).
2. This is much simpler if you use a handheld mixer.
3. It's better to eat it after it cools.

T/N: Nishimura-sensei lists his historical sources for the manga at the bottom of the page, but as you're reading a scanlation and thus are unlikely to delve into Japanese Warring States Period history books, I took the liberty of omitting this